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Volume XXIII, Issue No. 117

OPINION METER This week's poll:

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Do you support the latest proposal to allow casino gaming on Saipan?

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INSIDE

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The Syrian rebels' defeat in Qusair cost them more than a strategic stronahold ➤ PAGE 16

ENVIRONMENT



By the 2050s, a fourth of New York City could be a flood zone.

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LIFE & STYLE



Charming British actor Henry Cavill is Superman now. ➤ PAGE 20

Cops to be deployed in school campuses next school year. PAGE 3 '\$36K paid for new course instruction not a bonus' PAGE 7

Tim's new sentence: 9 years

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

■ imothy P. Villagomez's original sentence of seven years and three months in prison was lengthened to nine years during a resentencing hearing yesterday at the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

» Villagomez admits committing crimes, receiving \$25K, other benefits itus Chief Judge Alex R. in conspiracy

years in recognition of the former lieutenant governor accepting responsibility for his crime.

It could have been

more, but U.S. District

Court for the NMI Emer-

Munson knocked off two

Villagomez was given credit for the time he has already served in prison since Au-

He admitted that he received an estimated \$25,000 from the conspiracy.

"I accept full responsibility for my crimes," he said.

See TIM on Page 4

GAO: No reliable cost estimates for Marianas buildup

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has said the military does not have reliable data to support its some \$12.1 billion cost estimate to restructure U.S. forces in the Pacific, including relocating Marines from Okinawa to Guam as well as final plans and designs for a joint training range complex on Tinian and Pagan in the CNMI.

U.S. Marine Corps officials said developing an amphibious landing training area on Tinian could require coral realignment, which could cost approximately \$10 million, GAO said.

However, Marine Corps will need to wait until environmental analyses are completed before fully determining the costs for environmental mitigations associated with the complex, GAO added.

GAO, the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress, issued on Tuesday in Washington, D.C., a report that says "more reliable cost estimates and further planning needed to inform the Marine Corps Realignment Initiatives in the Pacific."

See GAO on Page 4

SPRUCING IT UP

A giant Hard Rock Cafe guitar display in front of DFS Galleria in Garapan is undergoing a facelift, at a time when the CNMI's tourist arrivals are picking up. In April alone, visitor arrivals increased by 6 percent compared to the same month last year, or from 30,691 to 32,521.



Immigration bill inches forward in the US Senate

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

A sweeping national immigration reform bill that includes a pathway to citizenship for thousands of long-term, legal foreign workers in the CNMI took another step forward after the U.S. Senate voted 84-15 to bring the bill to the floor for debate Tuesday in Washington, D.C. (Wednesday, Saipan time).

S. 744, which provides a pathway to citizenship for some 11 million undocumented aliens in the U.S. mainland, could be voted on in early July.

See IMMIGRATION on Page 4

IF ANNUITY PAYMENTS STOP

\$52.2M economic impact, says Fund

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

REPORTER

The projected collapse of the NMI Retirement Fund and the resulting loss in annuity for pension members will impact the CNMI economy at a staggering cost of about \$52.2 million, according to a Fund statement yesterday.

The Fund pays about \$65 million yearly in annuity payments to over 3,100 recipients. The bulk of this amount, or 80 percent, are received by benefi-

See FUND on Page 4

PLUM TRIP



PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE



2 THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

Fees at Grotto, other tourist sites mulled at budget hearing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Lawmakers mulled charging "nominal" fees at the Grotto dive site and other tourist spots to ensure a source of funding for these areas' maintenance and security, but Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio told House Ways and Means Committee members yesterday that the MVA board of directors has not explored the idea yet.

The House Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), held a hearing on MVA's fiscal year 2014 budget hearing yesterday morning. This was followed by a hearing on the Judiciary's 2014 budget yesterday afternoon. The Judiciary is seeking 5 percent or over \$6 million of the CNMI's \$123.4 million budget for the next fiscal year.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos proposed a \$1.161 million budget for MVA for 2014, down from \$2.007 million.

However, MVA is set to get an increase from other sources such as a portion of the increase in hotel occupancy taxes since April 1 this year.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) and other lawmakers said that MVA expects \$7 million to \$8 million from the hotel occupancy tax increase collec-

tion, outside of the general fund appropriation.

At the budget hearing, MVA's Tenorio said that of particular concern to the tourism agency is the steep stairs leading to the Grotto dive site and the limited area at the bottom of the steps. He said the large number of people at the bottom of the steps at certain times is impacting the natural environment, the stairs, and the limited space available. Moreover, he said there is concern that individuals go to "unsafe" areas of the Grotto.

Tenorio said there may be a need to limit access to the Grotto or at least make the tour stops on a staggered basis to lessen environmental impact, among other things.

He said there may also be a need to charge nominal fees for visits to the Grotto, and such fees collected would be used to maintain the area.

Tenorio said in other popular tourist spots such as Banzaii Cliff and Suicide Cliff, there are "enough open spaces" that there is no need to limit access at this time.

Tebuteb repeatedly asked MVA whether it would be a concern if fees are assessed on visitors to tourist sites.

Tenorio said MVA had informal discussions about it but there was no decision whether to pursue or reject the idea of charging nominal fees at certain sites.

Rep. Roman Benavente (IR-Saipan) is planning to introduce a bill that will allow the charging of nominal fees on every visit to the Grotto dive site and other critical tourism sites.

Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Tourism, said he has also considered such proposal, "especially at the Grotto."

"MVA will be having a board meeting this Friday and I will bring it up with their directors," Yumul. Tebuteb said he strongly recommends to MVA to "consider" the charging of nominal fees but he said this should be backed by concrete data.

Sablan, during the budget hearing, also asked MVA about the impact of lack of hotel rooms to accommodate the tourists visiting the CNMI.

With over 500 hotel rooms unused—all because hotels such as The Palms Resort, Coral Ocean Point, and Riviera Hotel are offline—the revenue loss is "significant," MVA's Tenorio said. He told lawmakers it's some \$300 million in lost opportunities.

Casino bill

Yumul asked whether MVA supports a bill legalizing casino gaming on Saipan, and whether it believes it is entitled to a portion of the casino revenues should the bill become law. The House passed the casino bill last week, and is now under Senate consideration. Yumul was one of the seven House members that voted against the casino bill.

Tenorio said MVA does not have any formal position on the casino gaming bill.

He, however, said that MVA "can always use resources to promote the destination or enhance the product."

Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guer-

rero (IR-Saipan) asked whether MVA can conduct another exit survey among tourists, to gauge how they feel about casino gaming on Saipan, among other things.

Deleon Guerrero raised the issue of a previous exit survey wherein tourists ranked Saipan's natural attractions such as beaches as the main reasons for their visit, and casino is at the bottom of their list.

Judiciary

The Ways and Means Committee also held a hearing on the Judiciary's budget for 2014.

The governor proposed a \$4.243 million budget for the Judicial Branch for fiscal year 2014, up from \$3.739 million in 2013.

But at the hearing, the Judiciary asked for at least 5 percent or over \$6 million of the CNMI's \$123.4 million budget for the next fiscal year.

Tebuteb, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, said there is no telling whether the Judiciary would be given its requested amount.

The Ways and Means Committee is expected to wrap up its budget hearings next week, followed by committee deliberation and drafting of the fiscal year 2014 budget bill.

Rafanan, Mendiola lead Hopwood graduates

By REINA S. PEREZ

STUDENT REPORTER

Ezekiel Joshua V. Rafanan and Joshua Jerald D. Mendiola were named Hopwood Junior High School's 2013 top graduates during promotional exercises on Wednesday, June 12, at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Rafanan, who is the 2013 valedictorian, said that junior high school had good days and bad but "each day posed a different experience."

"Time surely flies by very fast," Rafana said. "Today, I am proud to say I survived—we survived—despite the challenges and problems, the ups and downs of junior high. We would not reach this day without the help of the people around us we should be thankful for."

He expressed gratitude for his "school filled with professional dedicated teachers," his principal and teachers who served as second parents, and to his parents.

"We finally made it. God bless and good luck on our next journey which is the high school life." he told his fellow students.

Mendiola, the 2013 salutatorian, was also presented with the Principal's Leadership Award by Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcinas.

Mendiola, who served as student body president, gave thanks to his fellow students for being a part of his life.



EZEKIEL JOSHUA V. RAFANAN Valedictorian

"Whether we're best friends, barely see each other at school, or are just Facebook friends or something, I want to say thank you...for being there for me," Mendiola said. "No matter where we go, we will always be one family."

The theme for this year's promotional class is a quote by Eleanor Roosevelt: "I am who I am today, because of the choices I made yesterday."

Hopwood Junior High School awarded over 500 diplomas to eighth grade graduates. The top ten awardees are Rafanan, Mendiola, Robert Jomar S. Malate, Jezreelyn Y. Bulaklak, Ann Margaret D. Norcio, Ariane Corrine L. Reyes, Do Hyeon Kwon, Devina Destiny T. Atalig, Honorable Mention Yuuki Nishida, Marylyn Y. Tabuena, and Joshua Jaime C. Zulueta.

Vice princpal Jocelyn Manibusan-Tudela also recognized 106 students who received gold awards and 133 students who



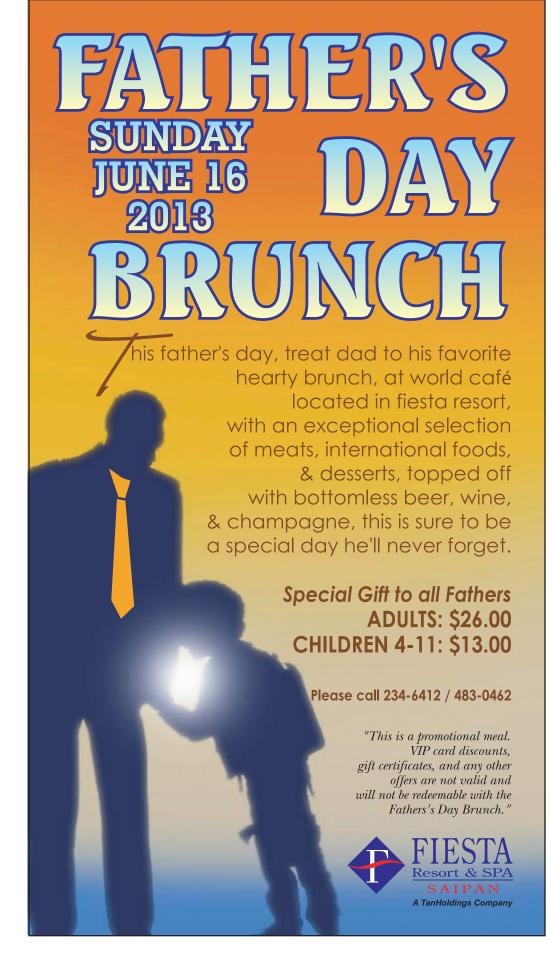
JOSHUA JERALD D. MENDIOLA Salutatorian

received silver awards under the President's Education Award Program.

A message from President Barack Obama to the awarded students was read during the promotion ceremony: "Nothing will have a greater impact on your success—and the success of our nation—than the knowledge and skills you gain in the classroom. By earning this award, you have shown the discipline and drive to excel academically, and I encourage you to carry those qualities forward in all that you do."

Guest speakers for the promotion ceremony were Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero and Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D. Other guests were Saipan Mayor Donald Flores and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan).

For the first time in Hopwood history, the promotional class sang the recently composed song, *I'm from Hopwood*, by Felix Rabauliman.



Cops to be deployed in school campuses next school year



Board of Education member Lucy Blanco-Maratita gestures during Tuesday's regular board meeting where she inquired about the School Resource Officer Program, which is targeted to be implemented next school year to increase police visibility in school campuses.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

REPORTER

Public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will see increased police visibility in campuses following the Board of Education's announcement that 20 police officers will be on school patrol starting school year 2013-2014.

During Tuesday's board meeting, a memorandum of agreement between the Public School System and the Department of Public Safety was signed and ratified, giving way to the revival of the "School Resource Officer Program."

PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh said this program was first initiated in public schools in school year 2002-2004.

Under the agreement between the two agencies, 20 police officers in uniform will be stationed in public school campuses. The objective is to safeguard and protect students while helping schools address discipline issues, especially in secondary schools.

During summer break, weekends, and when students are out of school, these police officers can be used full time by the local police department as additional manpower.

The salaries of these 20 police officers will be funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, which PSS is currently applying for.

Thornburgh described the program as a "win-win" for all parties.

According to BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero, the program will help PSS in its campaign against bullying in and out of school campuses.

Because of the program's remarkable success in 2002, Guerrero believes in a similar outcome from this reactivation.

School resource officers are reaching full academic, social, law enforcement officers who are responsible for providing security and crime prevention services in the American school environment. Their responsibilities are similar to regular police officers in that they have the ability to make arrests, respond to calls for service, and document incidents that occur within their jurisdiction. School resource officers typically have additional duties to include mentoring and conducting presentations on youth-related issues. School resource officers play an integral role in PSS and have had many positive impacts on the students they are involved with.

During a legislative summit early this year, PSS disclosed that, besides the recurring challenge of overcrowding in classrooms, concerns about student discipline are also at an alarming level. This was due to the lack of school staff who can guide and assist students in their needs such as truant officers and counselors.

"Student discipline is so small (0.041 percent)...yet very challenging because we see a rise in drug and alcohol use. Students are bringing drugs and alcohol to schools. Some students are high, some students are drunk," Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., said at the legislative summit.

Sablan asserted in November 2011 the system's zero tolerance policy on drug possession and marijuana use in all campuses, especially the public high schools.

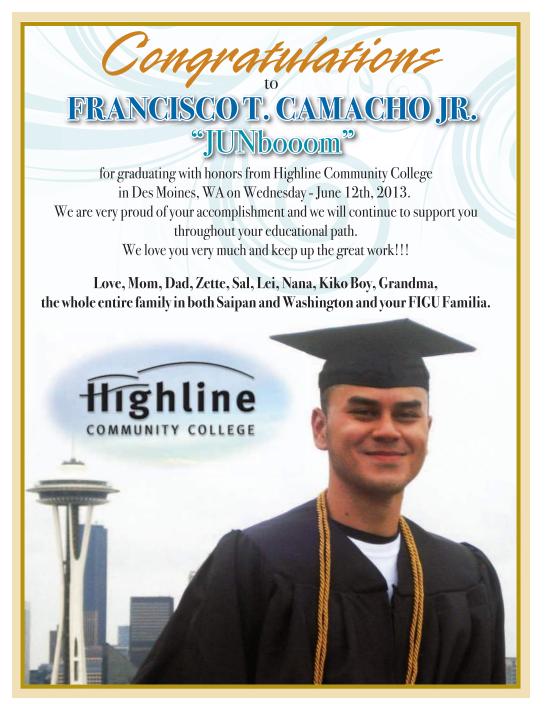
Unannounced periodic drug checks in all high school and junior high school campuses using the Division of Customs' detective dogs were planned but did not happen.

Sablan earlier said that one of the biggest obstacles to a teen

and emotional potential is the use of alcohol and other drugs.

PSS is also seeing continued occurrences of bullying among and between students.

Also part of PSS' challenges on student discipline is the discovery that many young children are already betel-nut chewers.





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FUND

From Page 1

From Page 1

cant step.'

ciaries on island while the rest goes to those residing outside the Commonwealth.

"The NMI Retirement Fund estimates a \$52.2 million impact on the CNMI's economy

IMMIGRATION

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C.

Sablan (Ind-MP) told Saipan

Tribune yesterday that Tues-

day's vote to begin debate by

the full Senate was a "signifi-

He said he is glad to see S.744

"Getting comprehensive im-

migration reform enacted into

law is going to be a difficult

process. But every step gets us

closer to success. And today's

vote to begin debate by the full

Senate was a significant step. In

addition, Speaker Boehner has

now said that he expects that

Congress will send immigration

legislation to the President this

optimistic about the prospects

The CNMI-specific provi-

sion is also expected to remain

untouched, even as numerous

amendments to the immigration

Sablan said he has not re-

ceived any information about

any amendments to the section

of S.744 that deals with the

"Nor was there any discus-

Northern Mariana Islands.

bill are now being proposed.

for immigration reform.'

Sablan remains "cautiously

year," Sablan said.

moving to the Senate floor for

if the retirement system annuity payments are ceased. The retirement system obligates the government to make twice-monthly payments to more than 3,100 annuitants," states the Fund statement.

Beneficiaries of the government pension program include retirees, disability recipients,

sion or concern about this sec-

tion, when the Senate Judiciary

Committee reviewed the bill. I

think it remains noncontrover-

sial and I have no plans to try

to amend it at this point," he

President Barack Obama,

meanwhile, moved Tuesday to

bolster support for the 867-page

immigration reform bill, saying

Congress "needs to act and the

Obama said the bill is a com-

promise in which neither Dem-

ocrats nor Republicans would

He, however, emphasized

that the United States is a "na-

tion of immigrants" and said

the estimated 11 million people

who are in the country unlaw-

fully deserve a clear chance to

Obama's return to the spot-

light on immigration issues

comes at a critical moment as

Republican critics of the bill

have started championing a

series of amendments to fur-

ther strengthen border security,

which immigration advocates

fear would slow or even block

Miles away, in the CNMI,

those covered in the national im-

migration bill are legal, long-term

foreign workers that have been

relied on for years and decades to

the path to citizenship.

get everything they want.

moment is now."

become citizens.

added.

and surviving spouses and children.

Based on the agency's estimates, \$42.8 million is paid to annuitants on Saipan; \$5.4 million goes to Rota members; and \$4 million goes to annuitants on Tinian. Yearly payments for those living outside the CNMI amount to \$12.8 million.

help build and maintain the local

"I believe that this time, the

immigration bill will get enough

support to pass the U.S. Senate.

This will finally fix immigration

problems. Both parties recog-

nize that problems exist in im-

migration laws and it's time to

fix them. They are the tools to

make this happen," Dekada

Movement president Bonifacio

The CNMI-specific provision

in the Senate bill would allow

long-term foreigners to apply

for a CNMI-only status within

months of the bill's enactment.

Those covered include legal for-

eign workers who have been in

the CNMI since at least 2003,

and those with U.S. citizen chil-

dren regardless of the age of the

waiting period, these aliens can

start applying for U.S. perma-

nent residence status or "green

card"—a pathway to U.S. citi-

Rene Reves, founding presi-

dent of Marianas Advocates

for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd.

or Mahal, said he hopes the im-

migration bill will pass without

amendments to the CNMI-spe-

"But should Congress need to

amend it, it should be something

After an additional five-year

children.

zenship.

cific provision.

Sagana said yesterday.

tourism-based economy.

the system. The Fund has a portfolio valued at over \$300 million, of

which over \$100 million has been set aside for active members.

Experts earlier projected that

the pension agency's lifespan

will last only up to March 2014

if no new funds are infused into

At present, pension checks

favorable to long-term guest workers in the CNMI. And if possible, the change should be to cut the waiting period before one can apply for green cardfrom five years to only two to three years. That's because five years waiting period will make it more difficult for those faced

U.S. Senate proponents of the immigration bill have said they hope to win up to 70 votes to pressure the Republican-controlled House to accept the major components of the bill.

Sablan said he submitted the same CNMI-specific language to the U.S. House of Represen-

This latest development on the national immigration reform bill comes less than two years before the end of the federalization transition on Dec. 31, 2014, when the CNMI will be forced to let go of its over 12,000 foreign workers-unless the tran-

with economic hardships,' Reyes said.

tatives.

egate, members of the CNMI Legislature, the Saipan Chamworkers to take over the jobs of over 12,000 foreign workers.

sition is extended to a later time. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the del-

ber of Commerce, and many other entities are one in saying that the CNMI still does not have sufficient number of U.S.

and Joaquina V. Santos.

Villagomez was also required to perform 200 hours of community service. The fines were waived due to the large amount of restitution he will need to pay.

Before ruling on the acceptance of responsibility issue, the judge gave Villagomez a chance to speak in court.

Reading his handwritten statement, Villagomez said he is

"I apologize to the citizens of

incarceration has taught him a lot about life and changed him. He said when he completes his sentence he will be a productive member of the community and "make right the wrong" that he had done.

\$15,000 in the conspiracy.

Villagomez paused, then disclosed that in sum he received an estimated \$25,000.

"Are you sure? You did not receive \$100,000?" Munson

Villagomez replied, "No."

Munson wondered why Villagomez would do these things that benefited the Santos couple in excess of \$300,000 and yet got only \$25,000 out of it.

"They were doing business with CUC. I just approved the orders," Villagomez explained.

Munson again expressed disbelief that Villagomez did those acts for only \$25,000 since the conspiracy benefited the Santos couple in excess of \$300,000.

Villagomez explained it's not about him but for his sister. He admitted, though, that he indirectly received benefits from his sister such as fuel for his boat and dinner.

When asked if the intent was to steal money from CUC or the Commonwealth, Villagomez replied, "Yes your honor."

Munson stated that the issue of acceptance of responsibility is "a close call." He believes that Villagomez "is a changed man" after having been in prison for over three years.

Munson agreed with the defendant's acceptance of responsibility.

After the judge made such ruling, some of Villagomez's family members, relatives, and friends in the gallery were in tears.

Assistant attorney general Ross Naughton had recommended a sentence of 108 months in prison—the lowest in the sentencing guidelines range.

Defense counsel Thompson recommended a sentence of seven years and three months in prison—the same sentence that Munson imposed on Villagomez in August 2009.

It is not clear yet as to when Villagomez will be taken back to the U.S. mainland to continue serving his sentence.

U.S. Marshal escorted Villagomez from a federal prison in Arizona to Saipan two weeks ago for the resentencing.

Munson conducted the resentencing after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit vacated Villagomez's sentence on Dec. 18, 2012, and ordered that he be resentenced after finding that Munson made a mistake in calculating the defendant's sentence.

Munson sentenced Villagomez in August 2009 to seven years and three months in prison for his conviction in a conspiracy to defraud CUC through needless purchases of a de-scaling chemical called Rydlyme.

The Santos couple were also sentenced in August 2009 to six years and six months in prison each. They are expected to complete their sentences on April 21, 2015.

The case came to be called the Rydlyme scandal, after the descaling chemical's brand name.

for retirees are still being issued while active members who applied for refunds of their contributions are awaiting a final decision.

The Fund and the government—among the parties in ongoing court cases—are on the negotiating table for a possible settlement.

Commonwealth Retirees Association chair Larry Cabrera expressed confidence yesterday that both the government and the Fund, or even the court, will not opt to cease the annuity payments for members.

"I don't think they will do that, if they want to save the Fund. Stopping annuity payments will not save the agency. Definitely it is not the solution

for the survival of the pension plan. We have to look for other ways...and I think some [of these alternatives] have been laid out to us." said Cabrera. alluding to the revenue-generating bills pending at the Legislature as a means to pump money into the retirement system.

He cited as an example the flotation of a pension obligation bond, which he said must be facilitated. Another alternative is the "deferment of payments" until such time that the government has the ability to pay the balance.

The CRA chairman is also convinced that the concerns and worries of his peers on the potential cut or impairment of their benefits will not be an option for the "new leadership" on Capital Hill.

GAO

From Page 1

The Marine Corps estimated some operation and maintenance costs to maintain and sustain the complex on Tinian and Pagan under previous realignment plans, but has not updated these estimates based on the current plan, the GAO report says.

There has been a growing opposition to the use of Pagan for military training among CNMI community members. Tinian, where two-thirds of lands are leased by DoD, has been hosting military training for years.

There are currently no permanent U.S. Department of Defense training facilities on Tinian, but the Marine Corps intends to build permanent facilities to store equipment and house civilians and service members deployed to the island to train, the GAO report says.

Furthermore, DOD has not developed a Concept of Operations for the complex, which could be used to determine other associated costs, such as transportation to and from the island

GAO says the DoD estimate is not reliable because it is missing costs and is based on limited data.

Among other things, the U.S. Department of Defense has not fully addressed the cost of: the physical layout in Guam; its housing requirements in Guam; utility and infrastructure upgrades in Guam; and the Joint Training Range Complex in the Northern Marianas.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), when asked for comment, said yesterday that the GAO report speaks for itself.

"The military still has a lot of work ahead of it, deciding exactly what it wants to do, and explaining its plans and justifying the costs to Congress," Sablan told Saipan Tribune.

Sablan said the planning process has been underway for a number of years and is not expected to be completed until at least 2015.

"There is opportunity for public input all along the way. And every one in the Northern Mariana Islands who has concerns should take full advantage of the process to stay informed and provide comment," he added.

Without a reliable estimate, for example, DoD will not be able to provide Congress and

stakeholders with the information Congress needs to make informed decisions.

GAO recommends that DoD develop more reliable cost estimates and an integrated master plan for the realignment of Marines, develop a mechanism to share annual updates on the status of each, and identify sustainment requirements for affected facilities until realignment initiatives are complete.

DoD generally agreed with GAO's recommendations.

As part of its preliminary rough-order-of-magnitude cost estimate, DoD currently estimates that it would cost approximately \$12.1 billion to implement the current realignment plan—not including the Australia segment of the realignment.

However, this estimate is not reliable because it omits potentially critical cost elements and risk parameters tied to the assumptions, and lacks detailed information on requirements for several key cost components that are needed to capture all costs related to the realignment, GAO says.

"To support the original realignment plan, DoD developed plans and designs for live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan, since not all training could be accommodated by the proposed live-fire training ranges [in] Guam. DoD also conducted several studies to identify training shortfalls in the region and determined the Marine Corps training requirements for units designated for realignment to Guam," the GAO report adds.

Marine Corps officials, according to GAO, said that they intend to reexamine their plans and designs as they prepare an updated environmental impact statement for this complex.

This EIS will be a separate effort from the Guam Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, and, according to DoD officials, will be entitled the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Joint Military Training Environmental Impact Statement.

For the joint training range complex EIS, Marine Corps officials plan to examine alternatives and identify environmental mitigations needed to proceed with the development of the complex.

Marine Corps officials anticipate issuing a Record of Decision by early 2016.

TIM From Page 1

Wearing a maroon inmate's shirt and gray pants, Villagomez looked fit compared to when he appeared at his trial in April 2009. His head was well

Shortly before the hearing began, Villagomez turned to face the gallery and repeatedly murmured "thank you" to family members, relatives, and friends.

Throughout the hearing that began at 9:10am and lasted at 10:40am, his hands were handcuffed in front. He also had leg restraints.

In justifying the sentence, Munson said that Villagomez as then lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth was in a position of public trust.

Munson said that Villagomez conspired with others to defraud and to commit offenses against the U.S., wire fraud, theft concerning a program receiving federal funds, and bribery concerning a program receiving federal funds, that damaged the public trust.

The judge, however, noted that it is Villagomez's first criminal case. He believes that the sentence will send a strong message to anybody else predisposed to commit the same crimes.

After serving his sentence, Villagomez will be placed on three years' probation. He was ordered to pay \$346,125 in restitution to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., jointly with former Commerce secretary James A. Santos

remorseful for his offenses.

He said he conspired with his sister, Joaquina V. Santos, and his brother-in-law James A. Santos, in procuring the descaling chemical Rydlyme by directing CUC staff to circumvent procurement regulations.

As then lieutenant governor, Villagomez said he directed then CUC executive director Anthony Guerrero to purchase Rydlyme. In return for the conspiracy, Villagomez said he received \$15,000 from the Santos

the Commonwealth," he said.

Villagomez said his years of

Munson asked Villagomez whether he received more than

'Pellegrino's passing a big loss to agriculture industry'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Although he may be more popular as the man behind the first-ever trade institute in the Commonwealth, the pioneer of a water manufacturing firm, or the force behind the first shrimp farm on the island, ranchers and farmers think of Anthony Pellegrino as first and foremost a great agriculturist.

This was what Isidoro Cabrera, a close friend of the late Pellegrino, shared with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, describing Pellegrino's passing as a big loss to the islands' agriculture industry.

Pellegrino officially registered as a member of the Saipan Sabalu Farmers' Market in 2007. Cabrera, at the time the cooperative's president, said it was the start of a good friendship.

"He came to me full of dreams and visions for our farmers. I can't help myself but admire him for having a big heart for us considering his status as already an established businessman," said Cabrera.

Pellegrino, according to Cabrera, did not only win his trust and admiration but also earned the respect of farmers and ranchers who learned and benefited from the ideals of the late businessman. Just a year after being a member, the organization elected Pellegrino as their new president.

According to Cabrera, Pellegrino pushed for the acquisition of Artic Circle Air for the

sake and welfare of the islands' farmers and ranchers. The carrier now transports local produce of CNMI farmers to the neighboring island of Guam.

"In reality, Tony had no dream of owning the business [Article Circle operation].

This is why he opened it up to the community. He wanted to make sure that the farmers and ranchers will take pride of its operation as their own," said Cabrera.

This was the same vision Pellegrino had when he started the

slaughterhouse on Saipan, Cabrera said.

He disclosed that Pellegrino died as a minority stockholder of Arctic Circle, which is now majority controlled by Rota Resort after infusing \$2 million in capital.

"I know wherever he is now, he is more than happy for our farmers and ranchers whose produce continues to be distributed to Guam markets. This is just one of the legacies that Tony will always be remembered by me, by our farmers. He is indeed a great farmer and agriculturist at heart," he said.

Pellegrino, 82, died of multiple health ailments on June 7 at the Commonwealth Health Center.

3 disciplinary cases vs Quichocho moving forward

Even as Gov. Eloy S. Inos with-drew Sunday his administration's nomination of Ramon K. Quichocho to serve as a Superior Court associate judge, three disciplinary complaints against the lawyer are still moving forward both in federal and local courts.

Saipan Tribune learned from sources that in the Superior Court matter, the hearing on one disciplinary complaint will be held next week, while the second one will be in the last week of this month.

Sources said that Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho will preside over one case while Associate Judge David A. Wiseman will be handling the second complaint.

The CNMI Bar Association filed the two cases on behalf of Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela

Cruz and businesswoman Jung Ja Kim. Both cases are sealed for the meantime, sources said.

With respect to the complaint filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, sources said the case is also moving forward, although no hearing is currently set. Sources said three judges will preside over the case, which is also sealed at present.

Kim is also the complainant

in that matter, sources added.

Quichocho's nomination received support from some people but was hounded by controversies that include allegations of fraud, racketeering, and sexual assault, and low evaluation from the CNMI Bar Association.

Quichocho has yet to respond to requests for comments on the governor's withdrawal of his nomination as well as to the disciplinary complaints. (Ferdie de la Torre)

NMC confident on audit report

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

monethdeposa@saipantribune.con REPORTER

Northern Marianas College officials are confident that the institution will get a "clean bill of health" when its financial audit for last fiscal year is completed.

Dean of Administration Dave Attao and chief financial officer Tracy Guerrero told the Board of Regents Thursday that this projection is based on the draft report and pre-exit conference they had with the external auditor, which is completing the work for the college.

Attao disclosed that the college will see only two findings in the fiscal year 2012 audit report, a large drop from the previous year audit's 13 findings. He described the two findings as new and not recurring deficiencies.

Of the questioned cost in compliance of \$400,000 in fiscal years 2010 and 2009, NMC expects zero findings in 2012. Attao described this as a "big accomplishment" and that the college was also able to clear out all previous audit findings.

Guerrero said that, based on her initial review of the financial data, NMC has a strong financial background and practices.

"I am very pleased to learn that NMC has a very strong foundation. In my analysis of the approved budget, we're meeting our target goals. As of end of the third quarter, we're also pretty good on expenditure at 70 percent," Guerrero reported to the regents.

Guerrero said that NMC was also able to significantly bring down its account receivables from over \$500,000 in the past to only about \$50,000 at present. This specifically pertains to "aged" receivables that must be collected by the college from its debtors.

According to Guerrero, the draft audit report for fiscal year 2012 is classified as "unqualified," which is remarkable for the institution.

"NMC should be proud under the leadership of Dr. [Sha-

ron] Hart and the finance office. Relative to other agencies, this college has a strong financial background and compliance," said Guerrero, adding that this will mark the fifth year in a row that the institution has been outstanding in its audit report.

Although there may be some recommendations in the upcoming audit report, Guerrero pointed out these are merely recommendations for the board's consideration, which she said are not cause for alarm.

Once the fiscal year 2012 audit is completed, Hart said it will be submitted to the accrediting commission. "[The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges] is waiting for this report," she told the board.

Hart said the "remarkable notes" in the soon-to-be-re-leased audit report demonstrate that the institution is focused in meeting its goals.

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Friday, June 14, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference room.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
 - c) Adoption of Agendad) Adoption of Minutes
 - i. October 16, 2012 ii. May 3, 2013

II. Public Comments¹ III. New Business

- a) Request for hearing on Commission Action No. 13-001-05212013
- b) TCGCC Regulationsi. Licensing of Casino Service
 - Industry

 ii. Appointment of an

 Administrator for Casino
- Licensee
 c) TDHC Casino Employee
 License Applications

IV. Executive Session² V. Administrative Matter VI. Adjournment

 Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written Life in Motion

PREPAID DATA - Live without LIMITS

comments.

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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Lawyer's disbarment complicates man's extradition case

half of the Republic of Korea, has filed an emergency motion to hold a status conference to find out if a Korean businessman facing two extradition

Stephen Woodruff, has been disbarred.

Assistant U.S. attorney Jessica F. Cruz requested the U.S. District Court to ask Jae Boong

cases is aware that his lawyer, Kim if he understands that Woodruff is disbarred from the practice of law in the CNMI and will likely soon be disbarred from the federal practice of law.

Cruz asked the court to in-

form Kim that he has the right to retain new or additional counsel to represent him in the extradition cases.

Given the unique circumstances of the case, Cruz also asked the court to make sure Kim is informed of his right to waive extradition and the effect of such a waiver.

Although the Sixth Amendment only guarantees the right to counsel in a criminal prosecution—and an extradition is not a criminal prosecution-Cruz said the court should ensure that Kim is fully informed of Woodruff's disbarment and respondent's rights in an extradition case.

"Respondent should confirm that his decision to retain a disbarred attorney as his counsel in these extradition cases is a knowing and voluntary decision," Cruz said.

Kim's responses to the com-

plaints in both cases are due on Friday, June 14.

Federal agents arrested Kim last month on Saipan based on two outstanding arrest warrants in South Korea for allegedly defrauding two persons of about 530.8 million Korean won (\$477,632.03) and defrauding some Korean nurses by falsely promising them jobs in Guam.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered the disbarment of Woodruff from the CNMI Bar on Friday for committing 44 violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Woodruff had described Wiseman's order as "very deeply flawed." (Ferdie de la Torre)



TRANSPORTATION EXPO

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority briefly meets with staff of the National Rural Transit Assistance Program during the Community Transportation Expo in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on June 1 to 6, 2013. From left, Sharon Greenwell, senior project manager; Thomas J. Camacho, special assistant for public transportation, COTA; Patricia Monahan, executive director, CTAA; Jess Wells, resource center manager, CTAA; Elizabeth Taylor, project manager, CTAA.

Ex-cop on probation admits using 'ice' again

Florencio O. Richards, a former police officer who was sentenced to 24 months in prison for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine or "ice" while he was still an active officer, has been found repeatedly using "ice" again.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory Arriola on Tuesday asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to modify the conditions of Richards' supervision.

Arriola asked the court to place Richards under house arrest for three months.

He asked the court to restrict the former police officer to his house at all times except for employment, religious services, medical and substance abuse treatment, and other court ordered obligation.

Richards pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute, distribution of "ice," and possession of a firearm by a prohibited person. The federal court sentenced Richards to 24 months in prison.

In his report to the court on

Tuesday. Arriola said he was informed by Marianas Counseling Services on April 16, 2013, that Richards admitted in writing that he used "ice" and drank alcohol on April 14, 2013.

Arriola said his office told Richards he would go back to phase 1 of the drug testing program as a result of his admission.

Arriola said that Richards again tested presumptive positive for "ice" use during a random drug test at MCS on April

28, 2013. Richards admitted in writing that he used the drug a day before.

Arriola said that Richards was admonished for his actions and warned about the consequences of his continued noncompliance.

Yet on May 8, 2013, Richards again tested presumptive positive for "ice" use and admitted in writing that used the drug on May 5, 2013, Arriola said.

As a result of the violations, Richards agreed to a modification of his release conditions. (Ferdie de la Torre)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Erratum on Mass of Intention

The Mass Intention published in the North Star on June 9, 2013, was mistakenly inserted for Saturday, 7am at St Jude. The Intention should read as follow: June 15, 2014, Saturday 4pm, St Jude, Thanksgiving Mass 40th Year Reunion MHS Class of 1973 and all souls of classmates who died [offered by Class of 1973 MHS]. (PR)

MHS Class of '83 meeting on Friday

The MHS Class of 1983 would like to invite everyone for our general meeting on Friday, June 14, 2013, 7pm at the Filcom Pavilion, next to the basketball court in Susupe. The purpose of the meeting is for the distribution of the banquet tickets, tshirts orders, and other reunion activities. For more inquiry or information call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665.

Kagman High activities

Kagman High School would like to invite all parents and community stakeholders to the annual awards ceremony on Friday, June 14, 2013, at 9am at the Kagman High School campus. Please come and celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating seniors and student leaders who will lead us into next school year. The award ceremony will take place from 9am to 12pm on must attend) 8:30am – 11:15am our beautiful campus.

We also would like to in- ny 9am, MHS Gymnasium vite all parents and community stakeholders to attend the Kag- emony 4pm, MHS Gymnasium

man High School graduation, scheduled for Monday, June 17, 2013, at 4pm at the American Memorial Park. Thank you for supporting the Ayuyu family! (PR)

Water outage in Koblerville on Thursday

Residents of Koblerville, Tottotville, and Afetna will experience a nine-hour water outage on Thursday, June 13, 2013, from 8am to 5pm, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. The purpose of this water outage is to allow CUC's contractor, AIC Marianas Inc., to replace non-working gate valves along Koblerville Road and Tinaktak Drive.

CUC's operations team and AIC Marianas will be working hard to return service to customers in these affected areas as soon as possible. Because of the scale of the work to be performed, CUC recommends that motorists take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the construction sites. (CUC)

MHS calendar of activities

Marianas High School would like to inform students, graduating seniors, parents, and the general public of upcoming and very important dates:

- June 13, 14: Graduation practice (Graduating seniors
- June 17: Awards ceremo-
- June 18: Graduation cer-



Procurement And Supply CNMI Government



INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB13-HSEM-123 (A-G)

Submission/Opening Date: June 24, 2013 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF THREE (3) SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES, TWO (2) 4 DOORS PICK-UP TRUCKS AND TWO (2) UTILITY VEHICLES FOR THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Prospective bidders may retrieve a copy of the complete contents of the Invitation for Bids at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

The CNMI government reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI

/s/ Marvin K. Seman Special Assistant for Homeland security /s/ Herman S. Sablan Director, P&S

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Town House Inc.

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Mr. Howard Wesner III is proposing to amend the approved site plan of Conditional Use Permit 2011-0604 issued on 6/15/11 for the company's refrigerated warehouse in Lower Navy Hill, on lots 023 D 68, 023 D 69, and TR. 22812.

June 20, Thursday

Time: 5:00 pm

Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, June 19, 2013. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2008).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

AMENDED NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY of COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS for program year 2013 and notice of public Hearing This advertisement is paid for by NMHC with CPD Funds.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of \$1,342,758.00 in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving \$968,331.00 in Community Developmen Block Grants (CDBG): \$325,684.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, \$48,743.00 in Emergency Solutions Gran (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2013.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS

HOUSING CORPORATION

The following projects were previously awarded CDBG funds, but due to HUD program requirements, the funds originally allocated to these projects were reprogrammed. For PY 2013, NMHC is restoring the CDBG funding for these previously selected projects in the following order of priorinty, Projects on this list will be provided PY 2013 funds up to the actual CDBG allocation and any remaining projects will be PY 2013 alternate projects.

The following projects to receive PY2013 CDBG funds are:

1. Public School System: Saipan Southern High School (SSHS) Swim for Life Instructional Pool.

- Approximately \$250,000.00 of CDBG funds to be allocated to SSHS Swim for life instructional pool.

2. Public School System: Gregorio T. Camacho (GTC) Elementary School library extension. Approximately \$200,000.00 of CDBG funds to be allocated to GTC Elementary School library extens

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of persons. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single-family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit flow-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless. Information concerning eligibility uses of the grant funds may be obtained upon request at the respective offices of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) located on Garapan, Saipan, San Jose, Village, Tinian, and, Songsong Village, Rota.

In order to plan ahead as to the use(s) of the PY 2013 allocation, the NMHC will be conducting hearings to obtain public input on community development and housing needs, and to provide information to the public on the status of the approved ongoing CDBG projects. The public hearings will be held as follows:

1. On Rota, July 1, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. at the NMHC Office, Songsong Village; 2. On Tinian, July 2, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. at the NMHC Office in San Jose Village; and, 3. On Saipan, July 3, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan

Accommodations for disabled individuals or other non-English speaking individuals who wish to attend the public hearing are available upon request by giving at least 24 hours notice prior to the meeting so that such needs can be arranged and provided. Additional inquiries, concerning the CDBG program, such as eligibility criteria and program requirements, may be directed in writing to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. 500514, Saipan, MP, 96950, or by calling Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director at 234-6866 or 234-7689.

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer

Regents told: \$36K paid for new course instruction not a 'bonus'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Northern Marianas College officials led by president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., reported to the Board of Regents during its meeting that the institution has paid to date about \$36,000 to some instructors who are teaching new courses, but they described these payments as "not a bonus."

In response to queries of board members, Barbara Merfalen, dean of Academic Programs and Services, even disclosed that this is actually stipulated in the employment contracts of faculty members and have certain budgets within their programs.

"It's not a bonus, but for the work that they have done. This is written in their contract...it's just that the institution is not obligated to pay for it. So some people were paid because they have earmarked money within their programs while for those outstanding [payments to other instructors] they're waiting for their program increments to kick in so they can use that [for payment]," explained Merfalen to the board.

Regent Frank Rabauliman said he was just surprised that the item was reported as "budgeted" when in fact he believes the payment for new course instruction was unexpected.

Rabauliman said he himself has not seen the item in the budget that was approved by the board for fiscal year 2013.

According to Hart, it took awhile for the college to complete the research and review of employees' files, resulting in the delayed reporting to the board. She said she also needs to weigh the financial impact of the issue.

"Some units had already pre-budgeted for this, but believe me, everyone will be compensated real soon," Hart said at the meeting, even as she urged the regents to come first to the college for "accurate information" about the issue.

NMC dean of administration Dave Attao also told the board that the \$36,000 paid to instructors is "not necessarily a bonus." He reported that more instructors are expected to receive the same, pending the assessment of the college.

Some faculty members first raised this alleged "bonus" for some new instructors in March this year. They labeled this as violation of the institution's policy and regulation.

In an internal memorandum issued by Hart on March 22 to NMC faculty, she said her office had investigated the issue. A portion of this letter reads: "After careful review, it was determined that NMC's instructional faculty employment contract makes no reference to additional credit being given for teaching new courses. However, the college did not stop its review with this determination. Instead, we went one step further and audited sample of personal files of faculty members who in the past have received compensation for overloads to determine whether there was any evidence of such compensation being tied to the teaching of 'new courses.' Files were reviewed from each department and school and no evidence of such compensation was found."

She added: "While it appears to be no historical practice, no policy, and no obligation to award overload credit when an instructor teaches a particular course for the first time, we must face the fact that the dean of Academic programs and services [Merfalen], apparently acting under a good faith belief that the contract required these credits to be given and any overloads resulting there from be compensated, in fact committed the institution to make payment for courses taught for the first time by an instructor between 2010 and 2012 in at least one program or department."

Hart then decided that "payment" made to these instructors who taught new courses during the stated period be applied to all departments.

Dean's letter

In a letter dated April 4 to faculty members, Dean Merfalen stated the following: "It wasn't the intention that I reward only faculty that are newly hired for a faculty position. But, as I was assisting in a matter that was brought to my attention regarding the development and teaching of a course for the first time by faculty. And, as I re-

viewed the faculty contract to help me in making a determination, I read a part in the contract regarding 'newly developed or extant courses being taught for the first time'—and understood that to be those that included not only newly developed, but those course that are taught for the first time as well."

Merfalen's letter also indicated that she takes full ownership and responsibility for her action.

"I take full ownership and responsibility for my understanding of the statement as written in the faculty contract and for the decision I had made. If there are any ill-feelings that our long-time faculty have on this matter, my humble apologies, and hope that we will now move forward and work together on realizing full accreditation."

This "budgeted" expenditure is expected to increase following Hart's decision to apply the compensation across all departments.

The issue about the "overload compensation" was investigated by the college after some instructors at the School of Education were retroactively approved extra compensation for new courses they are teaching, making reference to Board of Regents HR Policy 4020a and Faculty Contract Section III. The instructors' request was made through Merfalen.

Documents obtained by Saipan Tribune show that Hart, in her memorandum on March 22 to faculty members, stated that the contracts of instructional faculty make no reference to additional credit being given for teaching new courses.

Hart said it is the recommendation of the HR director and the dean of administration that the college honor Merfalen's commitment at this time and make payment for any resulting overloads, but that the college do so in an equitable manner across all departments.

"My decision will apply to all instructors who taught new courses during the stated time period, not just the School of Education," Hart stated in her March letter.

She instructed the HRO to make the payments to affected employees by March



NEW LOOK

A man walks the hallway of the newly renovated Office of the Attorney General on the second floor of the building that also houses the governor's office on Capital Hill. After months of renovation, the OAG is now ready for reoccupation.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING **Greenstar Corporation**

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Mr. Jae-Jeol Lim is proposing to operate a zip-line amusement activity designed to enable users propelled by gravity to travel from the top to bottom of inclined cables. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and will be located on lot 22656 NEW in As Teo area (past Santa Lourdes). This area is zoned as Rural.

Date: June 20, Thursday

Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, June 19, 2013. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2008).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2013 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipa (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

- **Preliminary Matters**
- Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of May 23, 2013 minutes
- 5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings) Public Hearings
- Conditional Use Application #2011-6433. Mr. Mark Hanson, registered agent for Tasi Homes Development Co., LLC, is proposing to build an eight storey, forty-nine unit apartment complex. This use is classified as Multifamily/ Apartment and will be located on lot 003 H 44 in Susupe, across from Mt. Carmel cathedral, at the corner of Hagoi Road and Beach Road leading to Sugar Dock. This area is zoned as
- ourist Resort. 2. Conditional Use Application #2011-6404. Mr. Jae-Yeol Lim of Greenstar Corporation is proposing to operate a zip-line amusement activity designed to enable users propelled by gravity to travel from the top to bottom of inclined cables. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and will be located on lot 22656 NEW in As Teo area (past Santa Lourdes). This area is zoned as Rural.
- 3. Conditional Use Application #2011-6530. Mr. Howard Wesner III of Town House Inc. is proposing to amend the approved site plan of Conditional Use Permit 2011-0604 issued on 6/15/11 for the company's refrigerated warehouse in Lower Navy Hill, on lots 023 D 68, 023 D 69, and TR. 22812.
- Communications/ Reports
- Old Business.
 - 1. Update on the Zoning Law of 2013
 - 2. Discussion on Zoning Overlay Districts
- E. New Business
 - Office operations report
- E. Executive (Closed) Session.

For guestions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661 This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.)

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Tasi Homes Development Co., LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Mr. Mark Hanson, registered agent for Tasi Homes Development Co., LLC, is proposing to build an eight storey, forty-nine unit apartment complex. This use is classified as Multifamily/ Apartment and will be located on lot 003 H 44 in Susupe, across from Mt. Carmel cathedral, at the corner of Hagoi Road and Beach Road leading to Sugar Dock. This area is zoned as Tourist Resort.

June 20, Thursday

Time: 5:00 pm

Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, June 19, 2013. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2008).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Bar owner convicted of sex trafficking

A federal jury convicted Chang Ru Meng Backman, 40, on Friday of one count of sex trafficking by force, fraud or coercion in the District of the Northern Mariana Islands between August 2008 and March 2009.

Backman, of the People's Republic of China, faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 vears and a maximum term of life in prison, according to U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco.

Sentencing has been scheduled for Sept. 13, 2013, before U.S. District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona.

This prosecution resulted from an investigation that began in the summer of 2009 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. According to the evidence presented at court,

Backman, who was the "bosslady" of the Holiday Karaoke Club, coerced vulnerable Chinese women into having sex with customers of the club, for her own financial benefit. Backman preyed upon women who had been enticed to come to Saipan from China with promises of legitimate work on a farm, hotel, or a restaurant. Once the women arrived, Backman used their debt, lack of legal immigration status, and inability to speak English to compel them to engage in commercial sex acts at her business, the Holiday Karaoke Club. Backman also drove the women to and from the bar so that the women would have sex with men at her direction. Three victims testified at the trial and

the jury found Backman guilty of one of three counts of sex trafficking.

The case was investigated by FBI special agent Jaime Prida and the United States was represented at trial by assistant U.S. attorneys Rami S. Badawy and Ross K. Naughton, and Limtiaco.

After the trial, Limtiaco, stated, "The sexual exploitation of vulnerable individuals is an affront to fundamental human rights, and it cannot be tolerated. Human traffickers trick, lie, and coerce victims with promises of work in a legitimate job. In reality, these victims lose their freedom and are horribly demeaned by the sexual acts that they are forced to perform. The defendant preved on the hopes and dreams of the victims, forcing them into a life of prostitution. The jury's verdict makes clear that sex trafficking schemes will not be tolerated. We will continue to find traffickers and hold them accountable for their crimes.

"This successful prosecution, was brought about through the hard work of the FBI in collaboration with local law enforcement and the CNMI Attorney General's Office, to combat sex trafficking. This prosecution is the result of the tireless pursuit by law enforcement of those responsible for the sexual exploitation of women, and our joint commitment to attaining justice for the victims of these horrendous crimes." (USAO)

conduct and performance and a

sense of teamwork. The Navy

Sea Cadet units on Guam, with

the help of many dedicated vol-

unteers, provides youth with

safe and educational opportuni-

ties. The program readies them

for future opportunities in the

Navy, in higher education or in

dets join the Armed Services

directly from high school, often

receiving accelerated advance-

ment, or obtain commissions

through college ROTC or the

Service Academies. Moreover,

the program has significance in

assisting to promote the Navy

and Coast Guard, particularly

in those areas of the U.S. where

the Services have little pres-

ence. Again, I appreciate this

honor and I will work to ensure

that this program remains af-

fordable for future defenders of

our nation." (PR)

Water system construction in progress

"A significant percent of ca-

certain trades.



June 13, 2005

Anatahan rumbles anew

Volcanic eruption on Anatahan escalated over the weekend and threw out thick ash clouds to 45,000 feet in the air Saturday, posing a threat to at least two aircraft passing through the Northern Marianas' airspace. The U.S. Geological Survey and the Emergency Management Office consider Saturday afternoon's activity as the second strongest eruption of Anatahan in recorded history following the record-high of 50,000 feet last April 6. Last Thursday, the volcano began to unleash its fury by spewing out ash to 30,000 feet, resulting in ashfall in the Northern Islands, particularly Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrihan.

Hope springs with installation of smart meters

The CNMI Water Task Force began installing smart water meters on Friday, with a hope that the water situation would improve in Garapan and other "critical" areas in two months. The first smart meter was installed Friday morning at an As Terlaje residence, located across from the Northern Marianas College water tank on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road. Pursuant to the government's contract with the contractor, World Electric & Construction Company Inc., all 4,000 smart meters should be installed within 125 days, or by Sept. 5, 2005.

June 13, 2006

Camacho: Military relocation will benefit NMI, Micronesia

Guam's impending economic prosperity, with the infusion of some \$15 billion that comes with the relocation of 8,000 U.S. Marines and their families within two years, will certainly benefit the Northern Marianas and the rest of Micronesia, said Guam Gov. Felix Camacho. Camacho, who was on Saipan last Friday for a fundraising event in relation to his November 2006 re-election bid, said in an interview that the military relocation from Okinawa would mean the entry of 18,000 to 20,000 people including the personnel's families and support group. This mass movement translates to some \$10.3 billion in direct investments in infrastructure between now and 2014.

SCC backs govt workforce reduction but...

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce supports workforce reduction in government to save on costs, but it needs careful implementation, which include consultation with the business community, said its president, Charles V. Cepeda, yesterday. "We at the Chamber fully understand the need to reduce government costs and one way to do that is reduction in the size of government. We support that. Even during previous administrations, that's always been the Chamber's position," said Cepeda. But he said that such a move must be done "through a process that is fair and beneficial to everybody." Cepeda said the business group particularly wants to be consulted in the process. "Some are saying that we're not supportive of the administration's plan, but what I was telling them is, they're not telling us the plan. There was no opportunity to sit down and discuss things," he said.

June 13, 2007

Overall remittances down

The weakening of the U.S. dollar versus the Philippine peso and the decline in the number of garment workers on the islands are combining to depress the total amount of remittances that alien workers are sending to their home countries. For overseas Filipinos, including thousands in the CNMI, a stronger peso is not good news. The exchange rate currently places the dollar at 46 pesos-a steep drop from some two years ago when it was trading at 55 pesos. This has forced some to increase their remittances to maintain the previous amounts they've been giving their families. That what's happening with Stephen Ancheta, a graphic artist who has been on Saipan for eight years. He said the higher peso exchange means that he has to increase his remittances, resulting in less money for his personal use on island.

5 percent budget cut eyed for essential services

The Legislature is now working on yet another measure to adjust this fiscal year's budget-this time by making 5 percent cuts against essential services while leaving the rest to the governor's discretion. The Senate unanimously voted yesterday to pass House Bill 15-265, which would reflect the \$30-million decline in the government's projected revenue for FY2007. The Senate-approved version contains amendments to the House's proposal.



WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) received yesterday a Sea Cadet trophy for her efforts to support the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps in annual defense authorization and appropriations legislation.

The Sea Cadet trophy is awarded annually to one Member of Congress, as well as to one member of the Navy League and one member of the sea services. Bordallo is the first Member of Congress to receive this award.

DPW moves to new office location

Works' main office is moving its location from Gualo Rai on Middle Road to Oleai on Beach Road.

DPW Secretary Martin Sablan said yesterday that the ongoing relocation will be completed by Monday.

Currently, the DPW main eten Motors. office is located on the second floor of the same building that houses Docomo and Pizza Hut in Gualo Rai on Middle Road.

"But when Docomo and MCV merged, they needed a bigger space. The owner of the building, Joeten, asked us if we could

The Department of Public move to another location. So Joeten relocated us. The amount of rental remains the same every month" Sablan said

> The DPW main office is now located on the second floor of the same building that houses First Hawaiian Bank-Oleai Branch on Beach Road, near Jo-

> We welcome the public to come and see us in our new office location. This is where the administration, Technical Services Division and Federal Highway units are located," Sablan added. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

A water system improvement project is now underway in the Chalan Msgr. Guerrero Road and NMC intersection and

youth organization sponsored

by The Navy League of the

United States and federally

chartered by Congress in 1962.

The program is focused on the

professional development of

youth ages 11-17, serving al-

most 12,000 Sea Cadets and

adult volunteers in 392 units

countrywide and the territories

"I appreciate this honor, and I

will continue to support this im-

portant program for the United

States Navy," said Bordallo.

"This important youth devel-

opment organization promotes

interest and skill in seamanship

and aviation, while instilling

qualities that mold strong moral

character in an anti-drug and

anti-gang environment. Sum-

mer training onboard Navy and

Coast Guard ships and shore

stations is a challenging train-

ing ground for developing self-

confidence and self-discipline,

of Guam and Puerto Rico.

along Chalan Tun Herman Pan Road (Airport Road by Exploring Drive).

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. urges the public to plan ahead in their travels or

take alternative routes as the contractor's (GPPC Inc.) crew works to install the new waterlines on the road way. Onelane closures are expected in these areas from 8:30am to 5:30pm.

For questions or concerns call CUC's 24-Hour Call Center at (670) 664-4282. (CUC)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 7th birthday to our little Spider Man, Edward Keoni R. Santos! God bless and enjoy your special day. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Thespians showcase lineup for national festival competition

STUDENT REPORTER

The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands performed the play Property Rites by Alan Haehnel on Tuesday, June 11, in preparation for the national competition in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Thespian CNMI team also staged a pre-international festival showcase after the play to give the local audience a glimpse of what the team will be showcasing at the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln on June 29.

The play, directed by Kaitlin Bolger, told the story of an art gallery owner who tries to sell figurines that eventually try to come alive. The whole play ends with one figure, the last figure to attempt to break free and the only one to survive destruction by the art gallery owner.

After the play, each Thespian performer showed off their skills in events such as monologues, duet acting, solo musical theatre, theatre marketing, costume design, scenic design, short film, and group musical theatre.



Some of the cast members of Property Rites pose with their director, Kaitlin Bolger, after the play.

Each performance, called Harold Easton with coaches a troupe, had their respective directors, with Amijoy Danganan for Grace Christian Academy, Katherine Barja for Saipan American Education Foundation School, Camalita Ada for Hopwood Junior High School,

Jojo Alepuyo and Paul Dujua for Marianas High School, and Dora Miura with coaches Kaitlin Bolger and Jane Mack for Saipan Southern High School.

The monologues performed by Kyle Villegas from SAEF doing Two Faced and Dirt, Not the Good Kind and Mikhail Alcantara from Saipan Southern High School performing Dark Corners and The Expert.

The troupes that did duet acting were Jillian Cyril Salcedo and Robert Marmito from Grace Christian Academy performing The Best Daddy and Harold Aranda and Jorem Guardian from Marianas High School performing *Super Glue*.

REINA S. PEREZ

The troupes that performed for the solo musical theatre were

Soon Hyung Kwon from Saipan Southern High School performing Mama Says from Footloose and Diane Hermogenes from Hopwood Junior High School performing No Good Deed from Wicked.

Yong Jeong Kim from Saipan Southern High School showed her theatre marketing skills with Property Rites.

Carlos Joseph Manalo from Saipan Southern High School showed off his costume design for A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Hannah Alcordo from Marianas High School showed her scenic design for A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Andrew Kim Vallanueva from Marianas High School showcased his short film The Alternate Road.

The final event, the Group Musical Theatre, was performed by Marianas High School students Mary Grace Barro, Lemuel Bunao, Darren John Cajipo, Simei Charfauros, Anne Cruz, Lady Dominique Canape, Noel Jimenez, Rosemarie Ann Liangco. Annabel Manzo. Rolando Sangalang, Ericka Serrano, and Vivien Viernes.



Thespians Harold Aranda, Grace Barro, and Andrew Villanueva play the part of customers in *Property Rites*.



Two "figurines" have a conversation in the play *Property Rites* put on by the Thespians.

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10 THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Public needs say in massive data-mining surveillance

The following editorial appeared in the Kansas City Star on Monday, June 10:

i, honey (and NSA and FBI).

Leaving work soon (not this world, I hope).

Want me to pick up anything? (Say parts for a bomb, or was it dinner?)

Got our tickets (for escape, make that vacation escape). Later (code for terrorism plan's a go, or goodbye).

As if we didn't already know that precious little of our lives is truly private anymore, the news of a massive data-mining effort by the National Security Agency and FBI into Americans' communications is deeply troubling. It deserves a major pubic debate and congressional review.

Candidate Barack Obama was clear on the need for more transparency and better oversight in anti-terrorism efforts and critical of President George W. Bush administration's warrant-less snooping. Now President Obama has exponentially inflated the probes, albeit with secret court oversight, and failed to offer the nation and Congress a full open debate on how far into Americans' private lives the government should go to stop terrorists.

From what's been reported, we know that the special secret court created by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act has approved wide data collection efforts on Americans' communications via email, phone, text, Skype, Facebook and more. The idea is the data dump will allow investigators to monitor terorrists' communications with individuals in the U.S.

To be clear: Individual phone calls, like the imaginary one above, are not routinely overheard. Rather, the experts run alogorithms on data to seek unusual patterns that might suggest links between foreign terrorists and Americans. Investigators need court approval to wiretap phones.

There are many peculiarities to this latest revelation. Why does the Foreign (emphasis on foreign) Intelligence Surveillance Act court get to order data collection on Americans? How does this jibe with Fourth Amendment protections? How can Americans trust that the information will never be misused for political purposes or to target minority groups or activists?

The great civil liberties traditions of this nation do not condone invasive sweeps of information from innocents to find the few bad guys. Normally, we expect authorities to pinpoint suspects, ask for court permission to seek more information, and proceed to prosecute cases. This all-in collection is a radical switch. While potentially effective in finding terror cells, it raises the question of how much privacy we are willing to relinquish to attempt to stay safe.

That debate belongs in Congress and on Main Street. It needs to happen soon, and Obama should call for it directly.

We have argued against many of the overreaching provisions of the Patriot Act, warning judicial oversight was lacking in the original act, as were adequate avenues to legally challenge data requests in the later version. Back in 2006, the public worried about government access to private library transactions. Today, that seems almost quaint.

The Fourth Amendment prevents "unreasonable searches"

See PUBLIC on Next Page



NMDC's Pagan

few weeks back, officers of the Northern Marianas Descent Corp. with Ana Teregeyo, Karl Reyes, Daniel Quitugua, and Rose Ada-Hocog as signatories published the corporation's 2013-01 resolution opposing the planned military use of Pagan. The longish resolution took a series of four installments that made it in these pages beginning May 20.

Having at one time driven a U.S. diplomatic plate in Manila by virtue of working for the U.S. Peace Corps, and later, as one married to a former PCV who segued as a program officer of USAID, with trips to Clark Air Base to avail of PX privileges, and entry into Seafront to the member-only bookstore, we got pretty acquainted with the various faces of U.S. presence in the country. Not the least of which were the military and its various branches.

Naturalized in the early '80s after instances of being stopped at INS—being qualified to be a citizen but not applying to be one apparently raises red flags—I was not a gawking guest, an outsider in the affairs of an alien country, but as a full member of the Union. We carry with pride the blue passport even as we retained Philippine citizenship when the country decided that renouncing one's citizenship to achieve the U.S. blue is a U.S. requirement and not necessarily recognized by the Philippines as such. The reddish brown book is seldom used, though it comes in handy when we skip the foreigner exit tax out of the Aquino International Airport.

Our Pagan view has two sides. Having worked in the '80s and '90s on natural resource management, particularly in the bioregional unit called the watershed, we are familiar with the mineral extractive practices that have wreaked havoc on Mother Nature's surface and tunneled Earth.

We have also watched military maneuvers from Korea to the Malacca, Diego Garcia to Saudi Arabia, España to Florida, Virginia to California's China Lake. We are familiar with the extent of our naval power and the degree of destruction we can inflict, should we decide to do so. Our destructive will, so far the only one that used nuclear, was baptized on Tinian and showered its anti-Nippon glee over the skies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki some 63 years ago.

Our extraction of minerals globally and our widely spread military inform the perspective that I bring to the discourse on Pagan.

First, a word on the mineral pozzolan that is an ace card in Pagan. The material possesses little or no value as binding material until it reacts with calcium hydroxide to form compounds with cementitious properties. The term derives from the Italian town of Pozzouli, source of a similar ingredient used in ancient Roman pottery and architecture

The fact that a contractor had a decade-long license to extract it in Pagan for commercial purposes but had not been able to move

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



the ingredient attests to the fact that it is no gold mine. It's potential, however, is enormous as up to 80 percent of it can be mixed with industrial cement to achieve the same purpose and better quality of binding. The savings alone on manufacturing contributes to the reduction of carbons in the air. Not to mention its ready market in Japan, Korea, and China.

The military's requirement for live fire training redounds to the very nature of the military establishment. Though titled as the Defense Department, Pentagon has always been the Department of War, utilizing the most advanced means of decimating an enemy. Married to the medieval notion that humans stand separate from and is lord over nature, and evolution's mistaken notion of the survival of the fittest, our military evolved from the defense of Sparta, to the marauding horsemen of Genghis Khan. Add the Aryan superiority bias to the self-righteous Christian crusaders and one has a military establishment that thinks of itself and its existence as humanity's reason for being.

The U.S. Naval air has no qualms shooting the slopes of Farallon de Mendenilla. Pagan has 10 registered Northern Mariana island citizens who can easily be "bought," David "Taulaamwar" Peter's passion notwithstanding. Aguigan goats do not count (the island was previously blanketed with sugarcane for Tokyo). The villagers of Jeju Do in Korea, even with an awakened global support network ready to back them, stand no chance against the will of the Pentagon to build a naval port. Pagan will be Uncle Sam's live fire target. The suggestion to trade Uracas in its stead does not avert the ecological disaster that live fire training brings about.

Is the military policy on Pagan reversible? Ah, but there is the rub! Some will be "rented" to keep the plan in place. Covenant negotiations can put the CNMI deficit plus the bailing out of the Retirement Fund on the table. That will silence the opposition to the comfort of the coffee shop.

Stopping Pagan? Dream on. Unless Ana, Karl, Daniel, and Rose are willing to drape their bodies unto the barbwires of history (some of us old, decrepit and dispensable crazies might actually follow), the flyboys will strap their fireworks on the target. For now, we will just let Pagan's birds and fishes make their own moves.

I amiguhu 'Sus Chamoru

u taitai felis na hinanau atuñgo'hu Jesus ('Sus) Chamoru (Charfauros) ginen Guam gi mapos na semana. Dañkulu na onru mana'e si "Chu" pot guiya pumega kantan Chamorro un' tiempu gi KUAM Radio 610 'an pueñge. Uma'atahgue yan defuntu che'luña Tommy guihe na programa.

I mas afamau na fino'ña si Chu i "Oba skoba" layeye pot grasia 'sino fina' chaleg. Ti mahñau guiya tumutuhon manana'lon un' patte gi kutturan Chamorro—sunidun natibu. Dispues ha choneg lokue' usun liñguahen Chamorro gi man-natibu. Ginen animuña na mafa' leksion finu' Chamoru gi eskuelan publiku. Mana' huhuyuñg lokue' gi KUAM TV yan PDN. Estague' na rekueddu piniloña deste ke hana' tachu palun galaide'ña pot kuttura yan tradision Chamorro.

I tiempu 'nai man-daña' yan mañeluña man-dandan, lamegai na fina' fiesta yan inetnon natibu 'nai mañaunau ma-abiba kantan Chamoru. Un' guaguan na rekesa ha pega gi santatte para hinerasion na famaguon Chamoru. Megai gi tautau-ta un' pañgon pot haf' tinatten niha para u li'e mona kareran niha. Sen mas Si Yuus Maase' Chu'!

Impottansian Kuttura

I kuttura-ta kulan un' guihan. Gai ilu, tatautau yan dadalag. I iluña dumetetmina disposision gi haf' hafafana'. I tatautauña i presente na kinalamten. I dadalagña i estorian finaposta.

Debi ta tuñgu' haf' finaposta pot para ta komprende haf' na mangaige hit gi presente na estau. Presisu ta komprende tinatteta yan presente na kondision para ta li'e i karerata mona.

Estague' mina' impottante ta komprende tinatetta 'sino man-ginen manu hit mage. Gi todu doblada, kinemprenden finaposta sumede hit humatsa layagta gi todu man-anaku' na karera.

Hu tuñgu' ginen manu mediu giya guahu. Esta pa'gu ti klalaru ginen manu' mage i Chamorro giya guahu. Mampos hana' chachatsagayu' i fattan este na halige gi finaposhu deste antes. Kase guahu ha' na guihan ayu i tai dadalag! Haf' mohon? Guaha 'nai enli'e este

na klasen guihan gi tasi 'sino sadog? Sin inbatgu fitme finana'guen mañainata ya este solu mina' konfotmeyu' humagu' mona pasuhu.

Otru asuntota

Sige un' prohimu ha labla relihion katolisismu mientras ha fafama i nuebu na hineñgeña Jehovah. Dispues de manadan labla, hu faisen haye gi halom dos yuus niha umadiñgan gi tatten troñku—troñku 'nai finatoigue si Moises as Yuus Tata. Mamatkilu ya sige man-hassu kontodu hilu' i lañget.

Hu labla gi uttimu kau haye madiskute gi halom biblia, si Jehovah ni yuus niha pat si Jesukristu? Ti mahñau hu sañgane na yangin lache gi primet relihioña, kau guaha chansa na u lagse' gi segundu pat puru dinagau hinasson fache' karisu?

Mattu otru sai'antes karisu ya ilegña na i biblia has diskute i "child" Jesus. Poresu na taya' "baby" Jesus 'sino Ñiño Jesus. Hu sede kumuentos lau 'an hu pesa edukasioña ni menos ke dose gradu, aike para u atrebigue' uma'adiñgan puntu ni sineda'ña gi biblia. Hu faisen kau si Eba' i primet na asaguan Atdan? Mamatkilu. Hu faisen lokue' haf' na mafafama na si Santa Maria guaha otru famaguoña fuera de si Jesukristu? Kau matuñgu' na biudu si San Jose?

Hu labla lokue' haye si Santa Maria Magdalena? Un' palao'an ha este na santos pat manadaña dos palao'an kumu unu gi fina'pos matuge' i biblia pot konbiñiente? Kau ha tuñgu' na este na santos unu gi man-apostoles lau machoneg gi santatte pot palao'an gi halom tanu' lalahe? Kau ha tuñgu' na si Santa Maria Magdalena un' sabiu ni sumañgane si Jesukristu diariu haf' para u susede?

Hu faisen lokue' i sabiun Jehovah haf' un' finu' Yuus Tata ni kada ratu ha repite deste siñku na leblu ni ma-usa gi matuge' i biblia? Na ti hafaisen hit para ta ayuda i man-na'mase'? Megai lokue' ti tumu-ñgu' na i finagpu' i tanu' unu ha' tumuñgu': Si Yuus Tata! Ni este ti hana' tuñgu' i uniku lahiña as Jesukristu. Pues ni haf' na kalendariu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



un' usa, i finagpu' i tanu' ni ñgai'an 'nai ta danche!

Haf' sustansian hinimidde 'nai maseha ha li'e haf' mamamaila', ha mattitgue' si Jesukristu kumomple tinagu' Yuus Tataña? Na ti pot ineyag obidiente gi sainamu? Na ti hana' patte i onru gi mañainata gi unu gi dies na tinago'ña? Mauleg na eksisiu i para in' tutuhon tumaitai i Santa Biblia kulan dinaña estudiun familia. Siempre in' li'e mas haf' hagas fino'ña ni manmasusesede pa'gu. Si Yuus Maase'! Si Iku.

Ilegña un' atuñgo'hu na mina ti gumigimen hanom sinaga sa' ma'añaugue' matai. Hanom grifu ha fimane. 'Nai madispone, hu huñgog na pininu' reñihioña ni hanom grifu. Finagcha'e lokue' taya' guihe na tiempu daialasis (dialysis). Adahe haf' in'gigimen!

Duru i dos patgon mafatta minetgot tatan niha. Ilegña i unu na sitataña ha uma i globu (desk globe). Ineppe ni otru, "Si tatahu ha kanu' i globu" (light bulb). Tabla!

Sigeyu' yan amiguhu Magoo umadiñgan pot man-lataduñg na asuntun linahyan. Hu faisen dispues haf' hinassosoña. Ilegña, "Taya'!" O'sun i prohimu mana' fan hassu satbasion linahyan. Ha sablasusyu' dispues, "Iku, ti mabotayu' yan ti ma-apapaseyu' taiguihe i mansabiu gi hegsu' I Deni". Magpu nobenahu ensegidas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The politics of Puerto Rico's status

Dear Rep. Gregorio Sablan: As you know, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico, Mr. Pedro Pierluisi, has introduced a bill—HR 2000—aimed at making Puerto Rico a state of the Union. I write to you to convey my opposition to such bill and lay out the priorities of my administration: creating jobs and reducing crime.

Let me put the Resident Commissioner's bill in context. This past November, Puerto Ricans went to the polls and overwhelmingly voiced their opposition to the misguided policies of the prostatehood New Progressive Party led by Mr. Pierluisi. Puerto Ricans called for change. On Election Day, in addition to voting for a new Executive and Legislature, Puerto Rican voters were asked to vote in a biased referendum designed to favor statehood. But the people knew better. As part of a traditional act of protest to an unfair election process 26.5 percent of all ballots cast were blank, and only 44.4 percent of the total votes favored statehood. The results are clear: statehood failed to obtain a majority of the vote, with Commonwealth supporters and those who left their ballots blank totaling more than 50 percent of the vote.

Sadly, Mr. Pierluisi and his party decided not to accept the electoral defeat. Instead, ever since losing the election the New Progressive Party has concentrated all of its efforts on misrepresenting the outcome of the referendum. The Resident Commissioner has launched a campaign to mischaracterize the electoral results in hopes that Congress will support a statehood referendum for Puerto Rico. This campaign has mischaracterized the facts about the referendum to such a degree that the Puerto Rico Legislature felt it necessary to pass a concurrent resolution on May 15, 2013, to set the record straight.

The facts of the referendum's electoral results are indisputable. In the November plebiscite statehood received only 44.4 percent of the total votes cast. This fact alone should be enough to reject Mr. Pierluisi's statehood bill. HR 2000's "yes" or "no" statehood referendum is nothing more but another step in the strategy of the New Progressive Party to exclude the Commonwealth from the status debate; being Commonwealth the option that Puerto Rico has chosen in all past plebiscites. The issue here is simple: majority of Puerto Ricans do not want statehood. I welcome the furthering of the self-determination process for Puerto Rico. But such process must be democratic, transparent, and fair to all status options. HR 2000 falls very short of what Puerto Ricans aspire and deserve.

Puerto Ricans do not want the politics of status to distract us from our efforts to create jobs, fight crime, and get Puerto Rico's economy back on track. Since being sworn into office in January 2013, I have concentrated my administration's agenda on executing economic development policies and crimereducing strategies. It is time to move beyond the election

cycle and focus on these challenges.

The Commonwealth's unique relationship with the United States provides the policy framework that supports our island's economic base, including our manufacturing sector. American companies—pharmaceutical, medical devices and technology companies in particular—are the backbone of Puerto Rico's economy. These companies have established operations in Puerto Rico because of the fiscal system provided by the Commonwealth. Statehood would destroy the legal structure on which our industrial base is built and decimate approximately 80,000 direct and 200,000 indirect jobs.

Our manufacturing base is the foundation on which we have begun to rebuild our economy, restore economic growth and bring back good-paying jobs so vital to rebuilding our middle class. Puerto Rico's first rate public university system provides a constant pool of engineers and scientists. This sophisticated pool of human capital in conjunction with U.S. regulations, including protection of intellectual property rights provides a compelling recipe for economic growth. We are drawing upon these resources to strengthen our industrial base and position Puerto Rico as a research and development hub.

Border security is another urgent matter that my administration is addressing. We must work together on the immigration reform bill that is under discussion. But as part of fixing our failing immigration system we must also work together to ensure that all U.S. borders are protected, including the U.S. Caribbean Border.

As you are aware, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are a major gateway for drugs entering the United States. Approximately 90 percent of the illegal drugs that enter Puerto Rico are in transit to the U.S. market. Drug trafficking has caused violence in Puerto Rico to increase to unprecedented levels. In 2011, murder rates in Puerto Rico reached record levels, with 1,136 homicides. Over 70 percent of these murders were drug traffic related. Due to this security emergency, I launched Operation Coastal Shield that activated one thousand agents from the Commonwealth's security agencies, including the National Guard, to safeguard the U.S. Caribbean Border. This large security operation h as increased the burden on our already strained government coffers but we could not postpone securing our border until the federal government provided the additional resources that the U.S. Caribbean Border needs. The Commonwealth is paying an unfair share of the cost of protecting the U.S. border, carrying 100 percent of the cost when only 10 percent of the drugs that are smuggled through the U.S. Caribbean Border stay in Puerto Rico.

Congress cannot protect the U.S. Mexico Border at the expense of the U.S. Caribbean Border. If Congress pours all border security resources into the U.S. Mexico Border and fails to provide equal

funding for the U.S. Caribbean Border, the flow of illicit drugs will simply be redirected from one U.S. border to another.

Restoring economic growth, rebuilding the middle class, and fighting crime are the challenges facing Puerto Rico and as such the priorities of my administration.

Alejandro J. Garcia-Padilla

Governor, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Reviving the economy

It is so unfortunate to see our leaders not doing anything about reviving the economy. Instead of reviving it, they do not have any idea about how to help the CNMI. It's OK, it's only a job that starts at 8am and ends at 5pm. Then it's beer time. While many of the CNMI people stare into the unknown, wondering what will happen to them, our leaders kill their time in the house and put many on hold. Sad. They should just allow the garment factories to come back. And leave the hotels alone and also the small business sector. It's called reviving the economy before yourselves.

Brenson John

Greensville, South Carolina

PUBLIC

From Page 11

and sets out specific requirements for warrants, including "probable cause." Both the Bush and Obama administrations profess no abuses of private information. But history is littered with abuses, including of political opponents and civil rights leaders. The challenge now is for Americans to get a shot at deciding how far the government should go in tracking terrorists.

Americans are well versed in our lack of privacy. Any Internet user knows that Google ads reflect recent "private" searches and Amazon knows what you've been reading well enough to offer book recommendations. The government knows everywhere we've traveled, within the U.S. and certainly outside.

If massive, pre-emptive data collection is needed for the tech-savvy alogorithms to do their magic in finding connections to terrorism networks, it is now up to the Americans to decide whether that's reasonable and reasonably protected information. But that can't happen without an informed dialogue.

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12 THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian





Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms Fast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲86° ▼76°



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°

SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° **▼**77°



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲ 87° ▼ 77°



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



Micronesia

Arou	nd The Glo	be	
Auckland	Showers	▲ 60	▼54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	≜ 87	▼ 66
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 84	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	≜ 85	▼ 72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65	₹55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74	▼ 60
Manila	Thundershowers	\$ 89	▼81
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 56	▼47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87	₹75
New York	Rain	▲ 65	▼56
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼72
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 53
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 77	▼66
Rome	Sunny	≜ 81	▼ 66
Salem	Showers	▲ 64	▼50
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	≜ 65	▼ 53
Seoul	Sunny	≜ 86	▼63
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 78	▼ 70

Tides										
Saipan Ha	rbor									
12:10 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet							
6:00 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet							
10:30 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet							
5:44 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet							

Washington, DC Thundershowers ▲89 ▼64

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120	130	140	150	160	170

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Yagi (03W) is southeast of Japan moving northward at 3 mph with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph. Troughing associated with Yagi is causing scattered showers and thunderstorms within 200 miles of a line from 24N134E to 25N137E. For more information on Yagi, see warnings issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. An upper-level low northwest of Saipan centered near 16N141E is triggering isolated thunderstorms within 50 miles of a line from 19N139E to 15N140E and scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Guam within 100 miles of a line from 12N143E to 14N146E. A disturbance southwest of Koror is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southwest of a line from 9N132E to 4N136E. A surface trough runs southwestward across Chuuk State from 12N154E to 1N151E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 150 miles of a line from 12N151E to 8N155E to EQ155E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from Pohnpei across Kosrae within 200 miles of a line from 8N159E to 3E170E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of Maiuro between 7N and 4N from 174E to the date line.

	Ti	des		Su	nrise/Suns	et	Moonrise/Moonset			
Saipan Ha	rbor			Today	5:46 AM	6:48 PM	Today	9:18 AM	10:07 PM	
12:10 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	Friday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM	Friday	10:07 AM	10:47 PM	
6:00 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	Saturday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM	Saturday	10:56 AM	11:56 PM	
10:30 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	Sunday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM	Sunday	11:45 AM		
5:44 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet	Monday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM	Sunday	12:36 PM	12:48 AM	

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the

following **PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRÁVELOGUE** Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration

NMI CRIME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- otos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures. \blacksquare Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of
- 800kb). ■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),
- the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are 6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

 For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right
- to choose which pictures to publish.



through the following: ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070							,	
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UASDO70	SAIPAN-GUA	M (GUM)		GUAM (GUM	()-SAIPAI	N	
UA5078	UA5070 UA5062 UA5068 UA5074	4:35am 4:50am 8:35am 11:20am	5:25am 5:40am 9:25am 12:10pm	1, 3, 5 Daily 1, 4, 5, 7	UA 5069 UA5071 UA5073 UA5075	2:45am 7:15am 10:00am 1:45pm	3:35am 8:05am 10:50am 2:35pm	Daily 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 1, 4, 5, 7
NAMITA (NRT)	UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily	UA5079 ROTA (ROP)	8:20pm -SAIPAN	9:10pm	Daily
D1287 6.05am 8.45am Daily D1298 10.25am 3.05pm Daily D1288 8.15pm 12.50am+1 Daily	CAIDAN NAD	ITA /ND	T\		UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	
D1297				Daily				Daily
OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7 OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 3, 4, 6, 7								
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LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency	Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300 Rota-Saipan	17:00 17:50	17:30 18:20	Daily Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	.0.20		Ju.,	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam			,	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily				
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 **13** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

More Americans quit jobs, a sign of confidence

WASHINGTON (AP)—More Americans are quitting their jobs, suggesting many are growing more confident in the job market.

The Labor Department said Tuesday that the number of people who quit their jobs in April jumped 7.2 percent to 2.25 million. That's just below February's level, which was the highest in 4 1/2 years.

Overall hiring also picked up in April, though not as dramatically. Employers filled 4.4 million jobs in April, a 5 percent increase from March. Hiring fell in March and April's level was below February's.

The report offered a reminder that the job market is far from healthy. The number of available jobs slipped fell 3 percent to a seasonally adjusted 3.75 million. Openings had reached a five-year high in February and remain nearly 7 percent higher than a year ago.

Still, the growth in hiring and quits provides more evidence of a dynamic job market that is making slow but steady strides. It follows Friday's May employment report, which showed the economy added a net 175,000 net jobs last month. That's roughly in line with the average monthly gain over the past two years.

Most workers quit their jobs when they have a new position or feel confident that they can find one quickly. And when they do, it opens up more opportunities for other Americans, including the unemployed.

Janet Yellen, vice chair of the Federal Reserve, has said the Fed is monitoring data on quits and overall hiring for signs that the job market is improving in a sustainable way.

The Fed says it will continue its ambitious program of bond

purchases until employment improves substantially.

The report, known as the Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey, provides the total number of people hired and laid off each month. It's different from the department's monthly jobs report, which provides each month's net job gain or loss and the unemployment rate. By quantifying total hiring and layoffs, the JOLTS report paints a fuller picture of what employers are doing.

For example, for the past two years net job gains have averaged about 180,000 per month. But much that gain reflects a decline in layoffs, rather than more overall hiring.

Layoffs fell to the lowest level on records dating back to 2001 in January. They have since increased slightly but are still below pre-recession levels.

Feds: Morning-after pill appeal officially on hold

NEW YORK (AP)—The Obama administration's appeal in the legal fight over morning-after pills has been officially put on hold until a judge weighs a new plan to allow girls of all ages to buy the contraceptives without a prescription, according to a government letter filed Tuesday.

Lawyers with the Department of Justice and those for the plaintiffs who sued over the issue told the clerk for the federal appeals court in Manhattan that they wanted to suspend the appeals case until they hear again from U.S. District Court Judge Edward Korman, U.S. Attorney Loretta Lynch said in the letter.

The government had appealed the judge's underlying April 5 ruling, which ordered emergency

contraceptives based on the hormone levonorgestrel be made available without a prescription, over the counter and without point-of-sale or age restrictions.

But on Monday, the Department of Justice notified him that it was reversing course and seeking prompt Food and Drug Administration approval of allage sales—an announcement that pleased girls' and women's rights advocates who said it was long overdue and disappointed social conservatives who claim it threatens the rights of parents and their children.

"It is the government's understanding that the course of action ... fully complies with the district court's judgment in this action," Lynch wrote.

She added that if the judge

agrees, "we intend to file with this court notice that the government is voluntarily withdrawing the above-referenced appeal."

It was unclear when the judge would address the issue. A woman answering the phone in his chambers on Tuesday declined to comment.

The government had originally asked the judge to suspend the effect of that ruling until the appeals court could decide the case. But the judge declined, saying the government's decision to restrict sales of the morning-after pill was "politically motivated, scientifically unjustified and contrary to agency precedent." He also said there was no basis to deny the request to make the drugs widely available.

Agency: Opting for overdrafts means higher fees

WASHINGTON (AP)—A U.S. agency says consumers who opt for overdraft coverage on their checking accounts pay higher fees and are more likely to have their accounts closed than those who decline it.

A report by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau released Tuesday says it's hard for consumers to anticipate and avoid overdraft charges. It found that the cost for "opting in" for overdraft coverage varies widely from one bank to the next.

Customers of some banks paid average charges of \$298 annually, while those at others paid \$147.

The CFPB has been investigating overdraft fees, which are a major source of banks' revenue. The agency has said its examination could result in new rules.

The Consumer Bankers Association, which represents large U.S. banks and regional banks, urged the CFPB against adopting any policy that it said could push consumers toward financial firms outside the banking industry which are less strictly regulated by the government and offer costlier alternatives.

"Consumers have the right to choose the products and features which best provide for their family's daily financial needs," Richard Hunt, the group's president and CEO, said in a statement Tuesday. "Fortunately, the marketplace for checking accounts is extremely competitive and banks make every effort to educate their customers about the options available to them."

Banks charge overdraft fees when customers try to spend more money than they have in an account.

Banks will allow the transaction and then charge the customer a penalty of as much as \$35.

Consumer advocates say overdraft fees hurt the people who can least afford them because poorer customers are more likely to drain their checking accounts to close to zero.

"Consumers need to anticipate and avoid unnecessary fees on their checking accounts," CFPB Director Richard Cordray said in a statement. "But we are concerned that some overdraft practices may increase consumer costs beyond reasonable expectations."

In 2010, the Federal Reserve barred banks from automatically enrolling customers in so-called overdraft protection programs for debit card or ATM transactions. Banks must obtain a customer's consent, or "optin." Without overdraft protection, a transaction is declined if the customer can't cover it. The rule didn't apply to checks, online bill payments or recurring debits, such as a monthly cable bill. It also didn't limit how much banks can charge for the overdraft service.

Nation

Immigration debate clears procedural Senate hurdle

WASHINGTON (AP)—In Spanish and English, the Senate pushed contentious immigration legislation over early procedural hurdles with deceptive ease on Tuesday as President Barack Obama insisted the "moment is now" to give 11 million immigrants in the United States illegally a chance at citizenship.

Despite the lopsided votes, Republicans served notice they will seek to toughen the bill's border security provisions and impose tougher terms on those seeking to gain legal status. "This bill has serious flaws," said their party leader, Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, one of several who noted pointedly that the 60-vote majority they will demand for passage is hardly

Even before the first proposed changes were considered, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, a potential 2016 Republican presidential contender, outlined the complicated state of play for a measure that he helped draft as a member of the bipartisan "Gang of Eight" and now in the United State legally and



In this March 12, 2013 file photo, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington.

seeks to alter. With changes to tighten control of the U.S.-Mexican border, he said, about half of the Senate's 46 Republicans are prepared to vote to create the pathway to citizenship that is backed by most or all of the 54 lawmakers aligned with the Democratic majority.

At the White House, Obama said repeatedly the current immigration system is broken, for the foreign-born who live

illegally alike.

Referring to the 11 million currently in the country unlawfully, he said, "Yes, they broke the rules; they didn't wait their turn. They shouldn't be let off easy. They shouldn't be allowed to game the system. But at the same time, the vast majority of these individuals aren't looking for any trouble. They're just looking to provide for their families, contribute to their communities. "

Congress briefed on US surveillance programs

WASHINGTON (AP)— Dogged by fear and confusion about sweeping spy programs, intelligence officials sought to convince House lawmakers in an unusual briefing Tuesday that the government's yearslong collection of phone records and Internet usage is necessary for protecting Americans—and does not trample on their privacy rights.

But the country's main civil liberties organization wasn't buying it, filing the most significant lawsuit against the massive phone record collection program so far. The American Civil Liberties Union and its New York chapter sued the federal government Tuesday in New York, asking a court to demand that the Obama administration end the program and purge the records it has collected.

The ACLU is claiming standing as a customer of Verizon, which was identified last week as the phone company the government had ordered to turn over daily records of calls made by all its customers.

The parade of FBI and intelligence officials who briefed the entire House on Tuesday was the latest attempt to soothe outrage over National Security Agency programs which collect billions of Americans' phone and Internet records. Since they were revealed last week, the programs

have spurred distrust in the Obama administration from across the globe.

Several key lawmakers, including House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, refocused the furor Tuesday on the elusive 29-year-old former intelligence contractor who is claiming responsibility for revealing the surveillance programs to two newspapers. Boehner joined others in calling Edward Snowden a "traitor."

But attempts to defend the NSA systems by a leading Republican senator who supports them highlighted how confusingly intricate the programs are—even to the lawmakers who follow the issue closely.

Santa Monica gunman was mentally evaluated

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A evaluation. Santa Monica gunman who killed five people last week was hospitalized for psychiatric evaluation in 2006 after police found bomb-making materials at his home.

Police searched the house where John Zawahri lived with his father after the teen made repeated violent threats against students, teachers and campus security officers at Olympic High School, retired police officer Cristina Coria, who helped execute the search warrant, said Tuesday.

Coria said she didn't know what was found at the house or the outcome of that mental

of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified school board, told The Associated Press that police had discovered bomb-making materials at the home.

The school board was briefed by school administrators after police found Zawahri was learning to make explosives by downloading instructions from YouTube, de la Torre said.

"It was some type of devices or materials that would be able to make explosives, and the word 'pipe bombs' was what was referred to," he said. "If it was guns and stuff like that it would have been more serious, but because it was explosives, it wasn't deemed 'Oh my God,' just that this guy had a fascination."

Investigators are looking at his police history, along with a stormy family life, to determine what led to the chaotic shooting Friday on a Southern California college campus. The encounter seven years ago appeared to be the last reported run-in Zawahri had with police until he died in a shootout with officers Friday.

Santa Monica police Sgt. Richard Lewis said a pipe was found in the home, but declined to provide more details because Zawahri was a juvenile at the time.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



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Asia

PH vows to defend territory, sovereignty

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Philippine President Benigno Aguino III vowed Wednesday his country will not back down from any challenge to its sovereignty and territory amid a sea dispute with China.

He said in a speech marking the 115th anniversary of the country's independence from Spain that the Philippines has not claimed territory that clearly belongs to another country but only asks that "our territory, rights and dignity be respected."

"Aggression does not run in our veins, but neither will we back down from any challenge," Aquino told government workers, diplomats and supporters at a public square named after revolutionary leader Andres Bonifacio, where he also led a flag-raising ceremony.

Aquino said in the next five years, 75 billion pesos (\$1.74 billion) will be spent to modernize the armed forces.

He did not mention China by name, but the two countries have an ongoing territorial row in the disputed Spratly islands.

Last month, the Philippines protested the presence of a Chinese warship, two surveillance vessels and fishing boats off a shoal occupied by Filipino troops in the Spratlys in the latest territorial squabble between the two Asian countries.

Ayungin Shoal lies 196 kilometers (122 miles) from the southwestern Philippine province of Palawan. It is guarded by a Filipino marine unit based in a rusty warship that ran aground on a coral outcrop several years ago. The shoal is near Mischief Reef, which the Philippines had claimed but was occupied by China in 1995, sparking intense protests from Manila.

Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam also claim parts of the Spratlys, a chain of islands, islets and reefs.

SKorea: Talks with North scrapped over negotiators

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— The Koreas' first high-level talks in years were scrapped a day before they were to begin Wednesday because the sides didn't agree on the delegation leaders, South Korea said. The cancellation deflated tentative hopes that the rivals would improve ties following years of rising hostility.

North Korea said it wasn't sending its officials to Seoul for the two-day meeting because the South had changed the head of its delegation, Kim Hyung-suk, a spokesman for Seoul's Unification Ministry, told reporters in a briefing Tuesday. The ministry is in charge of North Korea matters.

The hope was that talks on reviving two high-profile economic cooperation projects would start to mend a relationship marred earlier this year by North Korean threats of nuclear war and South Korean vows of counterstrikes. But the collapse over what's essentially a protocol matter is testament to the difficulty the countries have in finding common ground.

South Korea had originally wanted a minister-level meeting between the top officials responsible for inter-Korean affairs, but Pyongyang wouldn't commit to that. The last minister-level meeting between the Koreas occurred in 2007.

When Seoul told Pyongyang on Tuesday that it was sending a lower-level official than it had initially proposed in preparatory talks, North Korea said it would consider that a "provocation," Kim said.

The cancellation arises partly from misunderstandings that the sides have about who equals whom in power between their different political systems, Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea scholar at Seoul's Dongguk University, said.

"The two sides are offended by each other now. The relations may again undergo a cooling-off period before negotiations for further talks resume," he said.

North Korea did not issue its own statement about the canceled talks. North Korea did not answer a call from South Korea on Wednesday morning through a Red Cross line that Pyongyang restored last week to communicate before the scrapped talks.

The talks were set up in a painstaking 17-hour negotiating session Sunday, but the rivals had set aside the issue of who would lead North Korea's delegation. Kim said North Korea offered Tuesday to send a senior official of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea as chief delegate, and Seoul said it would send its vice unification minister as chief delegate.

South Korea had previously proposed sending its unification minister. After it announced the vice minister would go instead, North Korea said it wouldn't send anyone and that "all responsibility is entirely on South Korea," Kim said. He added that Seoul is still open to talks if North Korea reconsiders.

The main goal of the planned talks had been to see if the Koreas could restore economic projects that were born in the 'sunshine era," a 10-year period ending in 2008 when South Korea was ruled by liberal presidents who shipped large quantities of aid to Pyongyang as they sought to improve ties. The last of those projects, a North Korean factory complex run with North Korean workers and South Korean managers and capital, shut down this spring.

North Korea also wanted Seoul to restart an era of rapprochement by commemorating past joint statements on reunification and joint economic cooperation efforts. But Seoul balked at this; it has demanded apologies for past bloodshed before allowing such exchanges.

World

Syrian rebels reeling from loss of Qusair

BEIRUT (AP)—The Syrian rebels' defeat in Qusair cost them more than a strategic stronghold. It has left them with a battered spirit and deep frustration.

Their lesson from the fight: No matter how hard they try, they run into a major walltheir weapons are no match for the regime's. Desperate for successes, some in the opposition are calling for changes in tactics, away from trying to hold untenable territory toward more radical operations, such as attacks on military bases to seize weapons or even increased suicide bombings against regime strongholds.

The loss of Qusair, a town near the Lebanese border, was particularly stinging. Over the course of a year, rebels holding the town had heavily fortified it with tunnels, mine fields, and booby traps. When the regime assault came last month, with Syrian troops backed by elite Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas, they fought back ferociously.

But in the end they were outgunned and outnumbered,



In this Saturday, June 8, 2013 file photo, members of the Lebanese Red Cross carry a Syrian man who was wounded in Qusair, during battles between the rebels and Syrian government forces, is rushed to a hospital in the Bekaa Valley, east of Beirut, Lebanon.

and were forced into a harrowing flight when the town fell last Wednesday.

Only now emerging from hiding after their escape, several activists and a doctor who had been in the town described fleeing with thousands of residents and fighters, with the wounded hobbling on crutches or being carried for miles across the countryside. They came under repeated attack in the fields as regime forces chased them from village to village in a four-day pursuit. killing more than 100 rebels and civilians, they told The Associated Press

"We can't feel our feet after the long march," said Hadi Abdullah, an activist who had been in Qusair coordinating with the rebels. In the group he fled with, there were 800 people who had been wounded during the three-week siege of the town.

Clashes in Istanbul extend into night in Taksim

ISTANBUL (AP)-Riot police fired tear gas, water cannon and rubber bullets in daylong clashes that lasted into the early hours Wednesday, battling protesters who have been occupying Istanbul's central Taksim Square and its adjacent Gezi Park in the country's most severe anti-government protests in decades.

The crisis has left Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan looking vulnerable for the first time in his decade in power and has threatened to tarnish the international image of Turkey, a Muslim majority country with a strongly secular tradition, a burgeoning economy and close ties with the United States.

Throughout the protests, Erdogan has maintained a defiant tone, insisting he would not be bowed by what he described as a vocal minority. On Tuesday, as police clashed with protesters in Taksim, he insisted again that the unrest was part of a conspiracy against his government.

The demonstrators, he said, " are being used by some financial institutions, the interest rate lobby and media groups to (harm) Turkey's economy and (scare away) investments."

A peaceful demonstration against the park's redevelopment that began more than two weeks ago has grown into the biggest test of Erdogan's authority, sparked by outrage over a violent police crackdown on May 31 against a peaceful sit-in in the park.

The unrest has spread to 78 cities across the country, with protesters championing their objections to what they say is the prime minister's increasingly authoritarian style and his perceived attempts to impose a religious and conservative lifestyle on a country with secular laws—charges he rejects.

Four people have been killed, including a policeman, and about 5,000 have been treated for injuries or the effects of tear gas, according to the Turkish Human Rights Foundation.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Secret program leaker Snowden missing since Monday

HONG KONG (AP)—The whereabouts of a former CIA employee who leaked top-secret documents about U.S. surveillance programs remain unknown two days after he checked out of a Hong Kong hotel. Edward Snowden arrived in Hong Kong on May 20. His identity as the source of the secret information was revealed on Sunday at his own request. He was last seen Monday afternoon, when he left his chic Hong Kong hotel. There were no clues Tuesday or Wednesday as to where he might be or whether he remained in the Chinese special autonomous region, which maintains a Western-style legal system and freedom of speech. Hong Kong has an extradition agreement with the United States, but there are exceptions in cases of political persecution or where there are concerns over cruel or humiliating treatment.

World's oldest person dies in Japan at 116

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Jiroemon Kimura, who had been recognized by the Guinness World Records as the world's oldest living person and the oldest man ever, died Wednesday of natural causes. He was 116. Kimura, of Kyotango, Japan, was born April 19, 1897. Officials in Kyotango said he died in a local hospital, where he had been undergoing treatment for pneumonia. According to Guinness, Kimura was the first man in history to have lived to 116 years old. Kimura became the oldest man ever on Dec. 28, 2012, at the age of 115 years, 253 days, breaking the record set by Christian Mortensen, a Danish immigrant to the United States, whose life spanned from 1882-1998. The title of oldest living person is now held by another Japanese, 115-year-old Misao Okawa, of Osaka. Okawa, who was born March 5, 1898, is also the world's oldest living woman.

SET WORLD BRIEFS

Pope confirms 'gay lobby' at work at EU nations battle over air traffic Vatican

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis lamented that a "gay lobby" was at work at the Vatican in private remarks to the leadership of a key Latin American church group—a stunning acknowledgment that appears to confirm earlier reports about corruption and dysfunction in the Holy See. The Latin American and Caribbean Confederation of Religious—the regional organization for priests and nuns of religious orders-confirmed Tuesday that its leaders had written a synthesis of Francis' remarks after their June 6 audience. The group, known by its Spanish acronym CLAR, said it was greatly distressed that the document had been published and apologized to the pope. In the document. Francis is quoted as saving that while there were many holy people in the Vatican, there was also corruption: "The 'gay lobby' is mentioned, and it is true, it is there ... We need to see what we can do ..." the synthesis reads.

control plans

the skies over Europe—and airplane passengers across the continent are feeling its effects. A plan to simplify the European Union's patchwork air traffic control system and open up more air traffic duties to private enterprise has sparked strikes and job actions by controllers that began Tuesday in France and were to spread Wednesday to 10 other European nations. Nearly two decades after the 27-nation EU began eliminating checks along its land borders, its airspace remains a contentious issue. At the heart of the dispute is the idea of a single European sky-consolidating the continent's hodgepodge air traffic control systems under a sole authority, turning its many scattered air traffic zones into a few regional blocs, opening up bidding on services like weather forecasting and navigation, and easing what European officials say is a looming capacity crunch.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 17

Focus

ELLE ANSE, Haiti (AP)—The hardship of hunger abounds amid the stone homes and teepee-like huts in the mountains along Haiti's southern coast.

The hair on broomstick-thin children has turned patchy and orangish, their stomachs have ballooned to the size of their heads and many look half their age—the tell-tale signs of malnutrition.

Mabriole town official Geneus Lissage fears that death is imminent for these children if Haitian authorities and humanitarian workers don't do more to stem the hunger problems.

"They will be counting bodies," Lissage said, "because malnutrition is ravaging children, youngsters and babies."

Three years after an earthquake killed hundreds of thousands and international donors promised to help Haiti "build back better," hunger is worse than ever. Despite billions of dollars from around the world pledged toward rebuilding efforts, the country's food problems underscore just how vulnerable its 10 million people remain.

In 1997 some 1.2 million Haitians didn't have enough food to eat. A decade later the number had more than doubled. Today, that figure is 6.7 million, or a staggering 67 percent of the population that goes without food some days, can't afford a balanced diet or has limited access to food, according to surveys by the government's National Coordination of Food Security. As many as 1.5 million of those face malnutrition and other hunger-related problems.

"This is scandalous. This should not be," said Claude Beauboeuf, a Haitian economist and sometime consultant to relief groups. "But I'm not surprised, because some of the people in the slums eat once every two days."

Much of the crisis stems from too little rain, and then too much. A drought last year destroyed key crops, followed by flooding caused by the outer bands of Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy.

Haiti has had similarly destructive storms over the past decade, and scientists say they expect to see more as global climate change provokes severe weather systems.

Klaus Eberwein, general director of the government's Economic and Social Assistance Fund, said: "We are really trying our best. It's not like we're sitting here and not working on it. We have limited resources."

He attributed Haiti's current hunger woes to "decades of bad political decisions" and, more recently, to last year's storms and drought. "Hunger is not new in Haiti," Eberwein said. "You can't address the hunger situation in one year, two years."

In the village of Mabriole, Marie Jean, a 33-year-old mother of six, looked helpless as her naked son Dieufort sat cross-legged in the dirt, a metal spoon in hand that was more toy than tool. The 5-year-old boy barely looked 3, his gaze unfocused and glassy eyes lifeless. His stomach was distended.

Jean said she lost 10 goats and several chickens to Isaac. The goats could have sold for about \$17 apiece, the poultry for about \$2.80. She could have used the animals for food or the money to hold her

2 out of 3 people

face hunger as Haiti woes mount

By TRENTON DANIEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this May 26, 2013 photo, a woman holds a bag of food in line as the government distributes food in Petion-Ville, Haiti. Despite billions of dollars from around the world pledged toward rebuilding efforts, the country's food problems underscore just how vulnerable its people remain.

over until the new harvest season.

"You depend on this, because it's all you have," Jean said.

Many people have been forced to buy on credit, or look for the cheapest food available while eating smaller and fewer portions. Some families have asked relatives to take care of their children, or handed them over to orphanages so they have one less mouth to feed, humanitarian workers say.

Political decisions already had hurt the ability of Haitian farmers to feed the country. One example: Prodded by the U.S. government, Haiti cut tariffs on imported U.S. rice, driving many locals out of the market.

Eighty percent of Haiti's rice—and half of all its food—is imported now. Three decades ago, Haiti imported only 19 percent of its food and produced enough rice to export. Factories built in the capital at the same time did little to help: They led farmers to abandon their fields in the countryside in hope of higher wages.

At the same time, Haiti has lost almost all of its forest cover as desperately poor Haitians chop down trees to make charcoal. The widespread deforestation does little to contain heavy rainfall or yield crop-producing soil.

With so much depending on imports, meals are becoming less affordable as the value of Haiti's currency depreciates against the U.S. dollar. Haiti's minimum wage is 200 gourdes a day. Late last year, that salary was equivalent to about \$4.75;

today it's about \$4.54—a small difference that makes a big strain on the Haitian budget.

One hard-hit area is Ganthier, an arid stretch between the dense capital of Port-au-Prince and the Dominican border a few miles (kilometers) to the east. It's among 44 areas identified by the government as "food insecure," meaning too many tables are bare.

Here, villagers tell of an elusive rainfall that stymied crop production and then the hurricane that followed.

"That is when the misery began," said pastor Estephen Sainvileun, 63, as he sat with friends in the shade of a rare tree.

Hurricane Sandy ravaged the bean crops, leaving a three-month gap until the harvest resumed in December. With no beans to sell, farmers couldn't buy rice, corn or vegetable oil.

"Some people eat by miracle," said Falide Cerve, 51, a part-time merchant and single mother of five.

That has hurt education, too. The Ganthier schoolhouse, with its tin walls and dirt floor, can hold 100 students, but only 43 enrolled. The children are too hungry to learn.

"They're too distracted, and I have to send them home," said Sainvileun, the pastor who runs the tiny schoolhouse.

Especially hurt are children in Haiti's hard-to-reach villages. Directly south of Ganthier is one of the most remote zones in Haiti. The area is one of craggy mountains, the highest in the country at 8,772 feet (2,674 meters). Only the

sturdiest off-road vehicles can climb the steep, twisting and rocky roads.

Some villages, such as Anse-a-Boeuf on the southeastern coast, are solely accessible by foot or donkey.

On a recent oven-hot afternoon, a team of Associated Press journalists hiked down a hill, past a thicket of mangroves and into the beachside hamlet. They found several dozen children waddling among the wood huts with the usual signs of malnutrition.

"This child is not malnourished," insisted 45-year-old grandmother Elude Jeudy as she held in her arms 2-year-old Jerydson, naked and crying, too frail to stand a few minutes earlier. "I feed him."

The mother had left the little boy so she could find work in Belle Anse, a nearby village on the ocean.

Neighbor Wilner Fleurimond added: "People shouldn't be living like this."

Villagers say they vote for people they hope will improve their lives but in the end find disappointment.

"We vote for the deputy we know and nothing works," Fleurimond fumed. "We vote for the deputy we don't know and nothing works."

Shortly after taking office, President Michel Martelly launched a nationwide program led by his wife, Sophia, called Aba Grangou, Creole for "end hunger." Financed with \$30 million from Venezuela's PetroCaribe fund, the program aims to halve the number of people who are hungry in Haiti by 2016 and eradicate hunger and malnutrition altogether by 2025. Some 2.2 million children are

supposed to take part in a school food program financed by the fund.

Eberwein, whose government agency oversees Aba Grangou, said 60,000 mothers have received cash transfers for keeping their children in school. A half million food kits were distributed after Hurricane Sandy, along with 45,000 seed kits to replenish damaged crops, he said. Mid- to long-term solutions require creating jobs.

But the villagers in the Belle Anse area say they've seen scant evidence of the program, as if officials have forgotten the deaths in 2008 of at least 26 severely malnourished children in this very region. That same year, the government collapsed after soaring food prices triggered riots.

USAID has allocated nearly \$20 million to international aid groups to focus on food problems since Hurricane Sandy, but villagers in southern Haiti said they have seen little evidence of that.

Despite the discrepancy, one public health expert said there's sufficient proof that at least some of the aid is reaching the population. Were it not, Richard Garfield said, Haiti would see mass migration and unrest.

"Overall aid has gotten to people pretty well. If aid hadn't gotten to people that place would be so much more of a mess," said Garfield, a professor emeritus at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and now a specialist in emergency response at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "You'd see starvation and riots ... The absence of terrible things is about the best positive thing that we can say."

Government officials concede that not all of the 44 areas have received food kits and other goods as part of the Aba Grangou program.

"It hasn't arrived here yet. It's nothing but rhetoric," said Jean-Marc Tata, a math and French teacher and father of two who lives in Mabriole.

His 18-month-old son's hair began to turn orange after Tropical Storm Isaac knocked down trees, chewed up crops and killed livestock, leaving the family with little to eat.

"We had beans that were ready to pick but everything was lost. This has been a major cause of malnutrition," Tata said in a courtyard ringed with stone homes.

Tata said he had given his son a cup of coffee with a bit of bread, his only meal so far that day as dusk began to fall. The day before: a single bowl of oatmeal.

Haiti in general and the mountain villages in particular have long suffered from chronic hunger. Child malnutrition rates have been high for years. The United Nations' World Food Program reports that nearly a quarter of Haiti's children suffer from malnutrition, though the figure is higher in places such as Guatemala and the Sahel region in Africa.

Isolation doesn't help. A doctor in Belle Anse said his hospital has treated five children who were diagnosed with malnutrition this year. He said more parents would come if they could afford transportation and hospital fees, or take away time from work to make the journey on foot.

"The future is really threatened here," Tata said. "Our life is really threatened here." 18 THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Environment

Report: Fourth of NYC could be flood zone by 2050s



The skyline of lower Manhattan in seen past the East River in New York, Tuesday, June 11, 2013. The projections paint an unsettling picture of New York's future: a city where by the 2050s, 800,000 people could be living in a flood zone that would cover a quarter of the land, and there could be as many 90-degree days as is now normal for Birmingham, Ala.

By JENNIFER PELTZ

NEW YORK (AP)—By the 2050s, more than 800,000 New York City residents could be living in a flood zone that would cover a quarter of the city's land and New Yorkers could sweat out as many 90-degree (32-Celsiu) days as is now normal for Birmingham, Alabama, as effects of global warming take hold, a scientists' group convened by the city says.

With local waters higher than they are today, 8 percent of the city's coastline could see flooding just from high tides, the group estimates. And while the average day could significantly hotter, a once-in-a-century storm would likely spur a surge higher than Superstorm Sandy, which sent a record 14-foot (4.3-meter) storm tide gushing into lower Manhattan.

The updated predictions were released Monday, ahead of recommendations Mayor Michael

Bloomberg is to present Tuesday on what to do about threats that Sandy brought into stark relief.

"We have to look ahead and anticipate any and all future threats, not only from hurricanes and other coastal storms but also from droughts, heavy downpours and heat waves—many of which are likely to be longer and more intense in the years to come," an excerpt from the mayor's planned speech says.

Two top Bloomberg aides who oversaw the study, Seth

Pinsky and Deputy Mayor Caswell Holloway, wouldn't hint at what the suggestions would be, what they might cost or how they might be financed. Many key decisions likely will come after Bloomberg's third and final term ends this year.

Bloomberg said last winter the study would examine the pros and cons of building berms, dunes, levees and other coast-protection structures. But he has historically been cool to the idea of massive sea walls—

Thai pet shop owner with 14 rare lions arrested

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai police found 14 albino lions imported from Africa and hundreds of other protected animals in a warehouse near Bangkok and have arrested a pet shop owner.

Birds, meerkats, tortoises, peafowls, capuchin monkeys and other species from overseas and Thailand were found at the warehouse, police Col. Ek Ekasart said.

They said Montri Boonpromon, 41, faces charges of possessing wildlife and carcasses and could face up to four years in jail and a fine of 40,000 baht (\$1,300).

Ek said Montri owns an exotic pet shop at Bangkok's renowned Chatuchak weekend market and was previously convicted of wildlife trading.

Montri told reporters the lions were shipped legally and were to be transferred to a zoo



A lioness bares its teeth inside an enclosure after a raid at a zoo-like house on the outskirts of Bangkok, Thailand Monday, June 10, 2013.

in Thailand's northeast. He did not explain why only 14 lions remained at his warehouse,

while the documents showed he had imported 16.

Thailand is a hub of the in-

ternational black market in protected animals. While the country is a member of a convention regulating international trade in endangered species, Thai law does not extend protection to many alien species.

Police also found a hornbill and a leopard, both protected by Thai law, which were packed in a box and were scheduled to be delivered to clients on Monday.

"We have been monitoring the location for a few days after the neighbors complained about the noise from the animals," Ek told reporters during the raid in a residential area of Bangkok's Klong Sam Wa district. "And if you looked through the gate, you could spot lions in the cage."

The animals were confiscated and will be under the care of the Department of Natural Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation

and emphatic about not suggesting that people move out of coastal areas.

City Hall, the state government and others have released warnings over the years about climate risks in the nation's most populous city. The city has required some new developments in flood zones to be elevated and has restored wetlands as natural barriers, among other steps.

"Sandy, obviously, increased the urgency of dealing with this and the need to plan and start to take concrete steps," Holloway said.

The new projections echo 2009 estimates from the scientists' group, called the New York City Panel on Climate Change, but move up the time frame for some upper-end possibilities from the 2080s to mid-century.

"The overall numbers are similar, but we have more compelling evidence now that (a more severe scenario from 2009) is looking like a more realistic possibility now," due to

improved computer models and more evidence that some ice sheets are melting, said Radley Horton, a climate scientist with Columbia University's Earth Institute and a researcher with the city climate panel.

Scientists have reached a consensus on global warming, but still debate how severe the effects will be.

Meanwhile, the Federal Emergency Management Agency released revisions Monday to proposed new flood zone maps for the city. About 218,000 people and 35,000 buildings are in the current once-in-100year flood zone, drawn in the 1980s. The new maps roughly double those numbers, though the revision shifts about 5,800 structures from a subset called the V zone—the area expected to suffer the worst damage—to a less stringent zone.

A roughly two-year review is expected before new maps become official. They can affect building regulations and insurance.

IEA: Energy emissions rose to a record high in 2012

STOCKHOLM (AP)—The world's energy-related carbon dioxide emissions rose 1.4 percent in 2012 to a record high of 31.6 billion tons, even though the U.S. posted its lowest emissions since the mid-1990s, the International Energy Agency said Monday.

In its annual World Energy Outlook report, the Paris-based IEA said top carbon polluter China had the largest emissions growth last year, up 300 million tons, or 3.8 percent, from 2011. Still, the increase was among the lowest seen in a decade as China continues to invest in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

U.S. emissions dropped 200 million tons, or 3.8 percent, in part due to a switch in power generation from coal to gas, while Europe's emissions declined by 50 million tons, or 1.4 percent, the IEA said.

The agency said the energy sector accounts for about two-thirds of global emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases, which scientists say are fueling climate change.

Global climate talks are aimed at keeping the temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 F) compared with preindustrial levels. The IEA found the world's on track for an increase of 3.6-5.3 C (6.5-9.5 F).

"Climate change has quite frankly slipped to the back burner of policy priorities. But the problem is not going away—quite the opposite," said IEA Executive Director Maria van der Hoeven.

Climate scientists have

warned that the global temperature rise could have catastrophic consequences such as flooding of coastal cities and island nations, disruptions to agriculture and drinking water, and the spread of diseases and the extinction of species.

The IEA report, presented in London, said emissions could be reduced significantly by 2020 by improving energy efficiency in buildings industry and transport, limiting the use of coal-fired power plants, halving the oil and gas industry's release of methane, and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies.

Some of those measures are being implemented in individual countries around the world, but governments are struggling to reach a global agreement that would make such actions binding.

Climate negotiators meeting this week in Bonn, Germany, are haggling over the content of a global climate pact that is supposed to be adopted by 2015. The main sticking point is how to divide the burden of emissions cuts between developed and developing countries.

Industrialized countries want emerging economies like China, India and Brazil to take on bigger responsibilities, while the developing countries stress the historical responsibilities of long-time carbon polluters Europe and the United States.

The IEA report said developing countries now account for 60 percent of global emissions from energy, up from 45 percent in 2000.

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Life & Style

'Pitch Perfect,' Kendrick hit high notes

NEW YORK (AP)—They say it's not over till the fat lady sings—and that means Fat Amy isn't ready to put down her microphone.

The movie "Pitch Perfect," which was released in September and grossed \$65 million domestically, is also a success on the music charts, where the film's soundtrack has peaked at No. 3 on the Billboard 200 and has sold more than 713,961 units so far, according to Nielsen SoundScan. The film stars Rebel Wilson (Fat Amy) and Anna Kendrick (Beca) as members of the all-girl a cappella group, The Barden Bellas, who are battling other a cappella groups in a national competition.

Kendrick's rendition of the folk-pop tune "Cups" is helping push the soundtrack to musical heights: The song has sold one million tracks and currently sits at No. 27 on the Hot 100 chart.

"It's totally surprising," the perky, red-haired 27-yearold said. "I always figured soundtrack sales would be a part of a movie that has so much music in it ... but I had no idea we'd be into summer of the next year and people would still be talking about the album (and) buying the album."

The gold-selling "Pitch Perfect: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack" was released the week the film hit theaters. Kendrick, an Oscar-nominated actress, was in New York last week to receive a platinum plaque for "Cups," which is also a viral hit thanks to the cup routine she performed in the film, in the song's music video—which has 17 million views—and others imitating it in their own videos and posts online.

"We were like, 'OK, it's a cute song. Let's ask our audience what they think about it.' And it was enormous. It was enormous," said Sharon Dastur, program director for New York City's top station, Z100 (100.3 FM), where the song is on rota-

"Cups" was originally just 76 seconds long, but Kendrick rerecorded a version that is just over 2 minutes and it appears on a second soundtrack from the film dubbed "More from Pitch Perfect," which was released last week.

"It wasn't already planned," said Mike Knobloch, the president of film music and publishing at Universal Pictures, of the new album. "There were just some things we couldn't get cleared or include more for business reasons initially. Once we saw there was such a demand for it, we were able to go back and release more music from the film."



This Sept. 21, 2012 file photo shows actors Rebel Wilson, left, and Anna Kendrick, from the film "Pitch Perfect", posing in West Hollywood, Calif.

The albums feature mash-ups and covers of songs like Kelly Clarkson's "Since U Been Gone," Rihanna's "S&M" and La Roux's "Bulletproof." The success of the soundtrack comes at a time when album sales are low and for soundtracks, gold and platinum plaques are rare.

"Universal was looking for partners and there were other companies that looked at this movie and passed on the soundtrack opportunity," said Bruce Resnikoff, the president and CEO of Universal that released the soundtrack. 'We were fortunate enough to have people who saw it and believed it.'

Resnikoff said the reason for the soundtrack's winning moment is because its audience includes teenagers who are constantly listening, streaming and buying music online.

"This was an album that was completely launched through a digital medium," he said. "I do think some of the same things that have hurt the soundtrack business—the digital marketplace—were essential in creating the bigger opportunities here."

Harvey Mason Jr., the Grammy-winning producer and songwriter behind hits for Chris Brown and Beyonce, said music fans enjoy new renditions of popular songs, which is evident in the success of tunes from shows like "Glee," "American Idol" and "The Voice."

"My daughter, she's 15 and she liked it. So I said, 'Yup, that's a good sign," said Mason Jr., who co-produced the soundtrack.

Kendrick, who earned a Tony nomination for her debut on Broadway at age 12 in "High Society," said she's enjoying her

that she isn't jet-setting to create an album and launch a career as a pop star.

"I really don't see that happening. ... This has been so amazing and such an accident that I think now there would be a real expectation for it to do well and I'm perfectly fine with being one for one and just calling it a day," she said.

Kendrick's film credits include "Up In the Air," for which she received an Academy Award nomination, "50/50" and the "Twilight" franchise. She said she's currently filming a musical and will also appear in the 2015 sequel to "Pitch Perfect." In the meantime, she's waiting to hear her version of "Cups" on the radio.

"I've been in Berlin so I still haven't heard it on the radio, so I haven't had that moment of like being in my car, like in all of those movies about musicians the first time that you hear it in the car," she said. "But then I think, like, my band would break up and we'd all do drugs and yell at each other and sleep with each other's wives, so maybe I don't need that moment because that is a foreshadowing moment that I think would end in tragedy."



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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: SALES MANAGER

Qualification Requirement:

- Must have at least an Associate degree plus 8 years of work experience in wholesale or retail, three (3) years of which must be in management level.
- Must be able to meet sales goals and develop budgets.
- Proven ability to motivate and lead sales team.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office and customer service oriented.

PTC offers a competitive salary to correspond with experience and qualification. Interested person may pick up an employment application at our office in Puerto Rico. Deadline for submission is no later than 5:00pm on June 19, 2013.

> Pacific Trading Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Job Summary: Performs all and/or any combination of following clerical duties requiring knowledge of systems or procedures: operates office machines, such as desktop computers, laptops, typewriter, adding, calculating, and duplicating machines; enters room bookings and room report for bookings into computer and forwards the information to Shanghai office via email and telephone; confirms and reconfirms hold bookings with Shanghai office; inform Tour Guides of guests bus number assignments; prepare correspondence, bills, statements, receipts, or other documents, copying information from one record to another; photocopies documents, using photocopier, answers correspondence and emails, and prepares mail and email to Shanghai office; obtains travel and hotel accommodations for guests; prepares tour schedules and interaries, and email to Shanghai office; obtains travel and noted accommodations to guestis, prepares tour schedules and limeraries, and compiles reports of transactions; obtains confirmation of travel and lodging space and rate information; prepares guests tour booklet, copy of tour itinerary, written lodging confirmations and tour suggestions. answers guests and Shanghai office inquiries concerning tour routes, sightseeing schedules, fares and fees, and accommodations; prepare activity forms for Tour Guides; prepare key envelopes for incoming guests; sorts and files records; copies data and compiles records and reports; finalize guests name list to hotels; make bus reservations; Answers telephone, conveys messages, and runs errands; reply to Shanghai office emails, and perform other related duties assigned or as required.

Qualification Requirements:
High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 2 months work experience in travel or Tour operation, sales or service
based work environment; knowledge and skills in iPlex ERP system; must be able to speak, read, write and understand
Mandarin; excellent communication, organizational, and sales skills preferred; must have word processor and
spreadsheet skills, be personable and flexible under pressure, be able to work independently with detailed projects and
have an aptitude to learn new skills; must be willing to work full-time, shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Job summary:

Supervise and coordinate the activities of tour guides to ensure adherence to quality standards, work goals, deadlines, work schedules, policies, and proper procedures, correcting errors or problems. Assign work schedules in accordance with work requirements to ensure quality and timely delivery of service. Review the work of tour guides; train, evaluate and counsel tour guides in the use and knowledge of service standards, optional tour program, and customer service expectations. Resolve customer complaints or answer customers' questions regarding tours, hotel tood and lodging, dining, shopping, other activities, and airport pick-up and drop-off. Provide employees with guidance in handling difficult. or complex problems or in resolving escalated complaints or disputes. Implement corporate or departmental policies procedures, and service standards in conjunction with management. Discuss job performance problems with employees to identify causes and issues and to work on resolving problems. Train or instruct employees in job duties or company policies or arrange for training to be provided. Evaluate employees' job performance and conformance to regulations and recommend appropriate personnel action. Review records or reports pertaining to tour guides duties and responsibilities, activities and other services to verify details, monitor work activities, or evaluate performance. Assist in recruiting, interviewing, and selecting employees. Interpret and communicate company work policies, standards, and procedures to staff. Coordinate activities with other supervisory personnel or with other work units or departments. Analyze financia activities of the unit and provide input into budget planning and preparation processes. Develop or update procedures policies, or standards to improve staff performance. Make recommendations to management concerning such issues a policies, or standards to improve staff performance. Make recommendations to management concerning such issues as staffing decisions or procedural changes. Recommend or initiate personnel actions, such as promotions, transfers, discharges, and disciplinary measures; gives on-the-job training and coaching; monitors and evaluates performance of tour guides. Consult with managers or other personnel to resolve problems in areas such as equipment performance, output quality, work schedules, work lacility, and tour vehicles. Participate in the work of subordinates to facilitate productivity or to overcome difficult aspects of work. Design, implement, or evaluate staff training and development programs, customer service initiatives, or performance measurement criteria. Develop work schedules according to budgets, workloads, and/or guests needs. Discuss work problems or grievances with management. Ensure compliance by tour guides of government rules and regulations. Apply customer/guest feedback to service improvement efforts. Arrange for necessary maintenance or repair work of facilities and vehicles. Perform other related duties as required or as assigned.

Qualification Requirements:

High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus two years work experience as a tour guide or two years work experience
in tour operation, sales or service related work; must be able to speak, read, write and understand Mandarin; must have
excellent organizational skills, personable and flexible under pressure; must have a valid driver's license with clean
driving record; must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends; Must be willing to work shifts, evenings,
belifiens, and weekloot. A blobby motivated accounted charging with excellent expensions in excellent expensions. holidays, and weekends. A highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent communication, customer, sales and leadership skills an advantage. Commission may also be earned once the training period is passed.

TOUR GUIDE MANAGER (1)

Jou summary:

The day-to-day activities of the tour services department, including formulating policies, reviewing processes, procedures, and systems for efficiency and effectiveness, and making continuous services improvement. Supervise, coordinate, manage, and monitor the work and activities of the tour guides supervisors, tour guides, and other coordinate, manage, and monitor the work and activities of the tour guides supervisors, tour guides, and other departmental staff. Align department and staff performance in support of organizational goals. Formulate and implement departmental and organizational policies and procedures to maximize staff productivity. Recruit, hire, and discipline subordinate staff. Monitor performance and conduct performance evaluations, address performance deficiencies and implement corrective action as necessary. Ensure quality of services. Identify training needs and staff development resources. Plan and support sales and marketing activities. Assist in the development of strategic plans for operational activity. Interpret and communicate company work policies, standards, and procedures to staff. Implement and manage operational plans. Advance company managements' ability to improve service delivery and accountability through the use of data tracking, and analysis. Establish priorities and process improvement strategies in partnership with other company service departments; ensures compliance with new or revised policies, procedures rules and regulations. Develop budget recommendations, researches and review financial impacts and consequences of proposed recommendations; secures resource allocations or seeks alternative resource solutions for the company tour service operations. Resolves complaint escalations from the Tour Guides Supervisor. Prepare and provide management and straisficial reports to management and the executive team and department managers. Resolve technology, facility, and transportation, and other issues that cause disruption to service delivery; manages crises if service delivery is interrupted. Perform other duties as required or as assigned.

Qualification Requirements:

High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 4 years supervisory work experience in tour operation, or tour service related work and capable; must be able to speak, read, write and understand Mandarir, must have a valid driver's license with clean driving record; must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends; highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent communication, customer, sales and leadership skills an advantage.

Job Summary:
Direct and coordinate activities relating to supplier/vendor engagement, contract negotiation, and management. Conduct process mapping of four guides and operations clerks activities. Review policies and procedures and recommend changes. Develop operations manual for tour guides, operations clerk, and van and bus drivers. Prepare destination brochures/branding for the China market and other promotional materials and flyers. Coordinate staff activities relating to hotel room allocation, contract negotiation and management. Participate in formulating and administering company policies and developing long range goals and objectives. Direct and coordinate activities of department or division for which responsibility is delegated to further attainment of goals and objectives. Review analyses of activities, costs, operations, and forecast data to determine department or division progress toward stated goals and objectives. Content this management officials and other administrative personnel to review achievements and discuss required changes in goals or objectives resulting from current status and conditions. Prepare periodic reports for management, as necessary or requested, to track strategic goal accomplishment. Review performance data that includes financial, sales, and activity reports and spreadsheets, to monitor and measure departmental productivity, goal achievement, and overall effectiveness. Plan, evaluate, and improve the efficiency of business processes and procedures to enhance speadualty, efficiency, effectiveness, and output. Plan and implement systems that perform the work and fulfill the mission and the goals of the company efficiently and effectively. Perform other related duties as required or as assigned.

quantication Requirements:

Bachelor's degree in business, tourism, marketing, management or related field plus a minimum of six (6) years of responsible leadership experience in management positions, at least three (3) years of which must be as an executive in a travel/four operations. Knowledge of competing Southeast Asian tourism markets that targets Chinese outbound travel and a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives are an advantage. Must have excellent organizational skills; Writing and verbal communications Skills in both English and Japanese preferred; Personable and flexible under pressure; Able to work independently with detailed projects; Must be willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

TOUR GUIDES (3)

\$5.55 hourly Saipan/Tinian & at all Century Tours, Inc. offices

Job summary:

Perform all and/or any combination of the following duties: escort individuals or groups on short cruises, sightseeing tours or through places of interest, jungle tours, water sports and other beach activities, shopping, dining, etc.; describe tour points of interest to individuals or groups, and respond to questions; monitor guests' activities in order to ensure compliance with company or tour regulations and safety practices; greet and register visitors, and issue any required company processes and operations at tour sites; and perform other related duties as assigned or as required.

variation requirements. High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus at least one month work experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related work; must be able to speak, read, write and understand Mandarin; must have a valid driver's license with clean driving record; must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends; highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent communication, customer, sales and leadership skills an advantage.

ROOMS & RESTAURANT RESERVATIONS MANAGER (1)

anage the day-to-day activities of the Room & Restaurant Reservations Department, including formulating policies, manage the day-to-day activities or the Hourin A resistantain tesevaturions bepartment, including formulating policies, reviewing processes, procedures, and systems for efficiency and effectiveness, and making continuous services improvement. Supervise, coordinate, manage, and monitor the work and activities of the Operations Clerks, Operations Clerks supervisor and other departmental staff. Align department and staff performance in support of organizational goals. Formulate and implement departmental and organizational policies and procedures to maximize staff productivity. Recruit, hire, and discipline subordinate staff. Monitor performance and conduct performance evaluations, address performance deficiencies and implement corrective action as necessary. Ensure quality of services. Identify training needs and staff development resources. Plan and support room bookings and assignment, restaurant bookings and other command restrates in the stream control of the process of the proce room and restaurant marketing activities. Assist in the development of strategic plans for operational activity. Interpret and communicate company work policies, standards, and procedures to staff. Implement and manage operational plans. Advance company managements' ability to improve service delivery and accountability through the use of data tracking, and analysis. Establish priorities and process improvement strategies in partnership with other company service departments; ensures compliance with new or revised policies, procedures rules and regulations. Develop budget recommendations, researches and review financial impacts and consequences of proposed recommendations; secures resource allocations or seeks alternative resource solutions for the company tour service operations. Resolves staff & customer complaints. Prepare and provide management and statistical reports to management and the executive team and department managers. Resolve technology, facility, and transportation, and other issues that cause disruption to service delivery, manages crises if service delivery is interrupted. Perform other duties as required or as assigned.

Qualification Requirements:

High school graduate, GED or equivalent plus a combination equivalent to five years work experience as a tour operations supervisor or manager in a tour/travel agency, sales or service related work and capable of performing the duties of a manager, must be able to speak, read, write and understand Mandarin; must have excellent organizational skills, personable and flexible under pressure; must have a valid driver's license with clean driving record; must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays and weekends; a highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent communication, customer, sales and leadership skills an advantage. Knowledge of Japanese language an advantage.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Positions will be filled commensurate with qualification, work exc ability to perform Worksite location is on Sainan/Tinian and at all Century Tours Inc. offices. Applications may be obtained from the Front Office of Century Tours, Inc., located at the Kanoa Resort on Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan while resumes can be emailed to camille.orallo@saipan.travel. All resumes and applications must be submitted to Human Resources at the Century Tours, Inc. Front Office no later than Friday, June 14, 2013. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Henry Cavill keeps it real as Superman in 'Man of Steel'

By DERRIK J. LANG AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—With his dark eyebrows deeply furrowed and gleaming white teeth firmly clamped shut, Henry Cavill winces when asked if Superman is treated like a terrorist in "Man of Steel." His reaction is somewhat understandable. The charming British actor should feel very protective of the character—one of the biggest icons in pop culture.

Besides, Henry Cavill is Superman now.

It's a fair question though, given that Cavill's Superman, his bulky frame encased in a deep-blue rendition of the Superman uniform, is handcuffed and attacked by the military at certain points in the retelling of the superhero's origin. While the idea of Superman as a threatening outsider has been explored in other mediums, it's new to the big screen.

"In the previous movies, it was just kind of accepted that he was a superhuman, but what would happen if this dude really did exist?" said Cavill. "If he was discovered, he would probably be put in a room and experimented on. That's very clear in his choices throughout the movie. He's become very adept at being who he is—but just not so openly.'

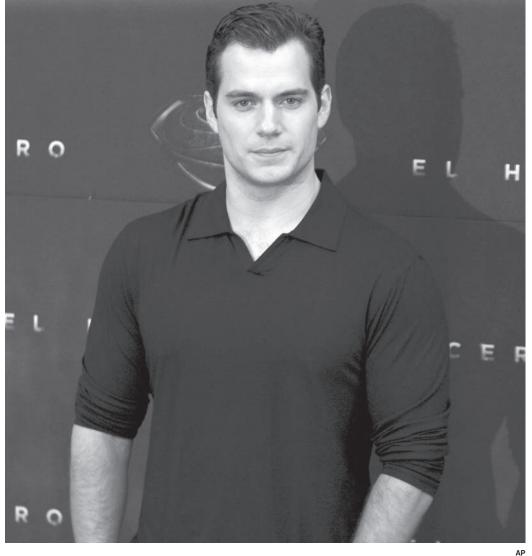
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"Man of Steel" centers on an adult Clark Kent—or Kal-El, as he's known back on his home planet of Krypton—at the inception of his superheroic identity. (The name Superman is actually only uttered a couple of times in the film.) It's a matterof-fact account of how a much more hesitant Clark rises up and responds when earth is threatened by Kryptonian outcasts.

At the beginning of "Man of Steel," which opens Friday, this version of the character doesn't wear spectacles, work at The Daily Planet, soar through the skies or own any clothes with a giant S plastered across the chest. He's a drifter. He says more with actions than words, something the 30-year-old star of 2011's "Immortals" completely understands.

"As an actor, you spend a lot of time alone," said Cavill. "You travel the world by yourself. You don't have your buddies that you see on the weekend or at the office every day. You make temporary families, and you can only see your friends between jobs. I'm actually not a naturally super-chatty person. It's a skill I've had to teach myself."

With an emphasis on folksy imagery instead of high-flying action, early "Man of Steel" footage suggested a darker take on the superhero. While the tone is certainly more emo-



Henry Cavill, star of the latest Superman movie, "Man of Steel", poses for photographs during a media event to promote the film in Mexico City, Friday, June 7, 2013.

tional than previous live-action adaptations, the filmmakers—which include "The Dark Knight" director Christopher Nolan as a producer and writer-haven't diagnosed Superman with depression.

"It's not darker," said director Zack Snyder. "It's just a more realistically realized version of Superman. We tried to apply logic to the story. He lives in our world. That's it. It's a straightforward protocol. We put him in our world without it being a joke. If we had made it a little lighter, maybe it would feel more like the Superman of the past."

That's exactly what the film- of Steel," there's still plenty makers didn't want to do.

Nolan, Snyder and screenwriter David S. Goyer traded the bumbling, nerdy Clark in favor of a more contemplative one who stays under the radar working odd jobs. It's far, far and away from Christopher Reeve's jocular interpretation of the role, which Cavill won after earlier missing the part in 2006's "Superman Returns" to Brandon Routh.

Still, Snyder is quick to note this edition of the Metropolis Marvel is "not not Superman." For everything that feels different about the Superman in "Man

snark over

that's recognizable, most notably, Clark's highly principled attitude instilled in him by his Midwestern adoptive parents (played by Kevin Costner and Diane Lane).

"There's a snarkiness to the world now, and the nice thing about Superman is that he's a volunteer in the classic sense," said Snyder. "If you really think about it, he has no life, other than to serve. I think that Henry, without making him sound like too much of a saint, naturally has that characteristic in himself. He's not putting it on."

Faith—to both God and ing weekend.

country-is an integral theme in "Man of Steel." There's no looking past the religious allegories that have been associated with Superman mythology for decades. This Man of Tomorrow is 33 years old today and seeks counsel at a church in a time of crisis. Snyder believes his Superman supports religion but also questions it.

"It's more interesting when someone is flawed," said Amy Adams, who plays Lois Lane. "In the past, Superman is so hard to get into because he's so perfect. I love that Henry plays him as a conflicted human being-or alien, as it were-with all these identifiable traits like fear, which we've never really seen before in this character."

Another contrast to previous Superman lore is the evolution of the relationship between Clark and Lois, who's portrayed by Adams as a take-no-prisoners, Pulitzer Prize-winning war reporter. She encounters the last son of Krypton before even he fully understands his intergalactic backstory. Ultimately, Superman needs Lois as much as she needs him.

"I loved how this relationship between Clark and Lois allowed for a subtle chemistry and mutual respect to develop," said Adams. "I just thought there was something different to be explored within their relationship that we're able to touch on a little bit in this film. She believes him, and that's really rare for Lois. There's an authenticity there."

The expectations for "Man of Steel" are higher than any building in Metropolis. The film could accomplish for Warner Bros. what "Superman Returns" failed to do, namely, launch a film franchise akin to "The Dark Knight." Paul Dergarabedian, box office analyst for Hollywood.com, expects it to leap over the \$100 million mark in a single bound on open-

show earns some

NEW YORK (AP)—They aren't looking for sex and they're not in need of baby daddies. It's those two things that landed the single ladies of "Pregnant & Dating" on reality TV to begin with.

Five in all, the growing and glowing women in WE tv's latest lineup play mini-golf, lace up bowling shoes and enjoy romantic non-alcoholic outings, but the mere idea of dating while pregnant has earned them a bit of snark.

"I see (at)WEtv has a show called (hash)pregnantanddating.

You straight people really are something else," tweeted gay comedian Dave Rubin.

While some of the on-air dates know about the pregnancies, most of the men have at least one awkward deer-in-thecamera-lights moment when the subject comes up. And then there's the subject of sex, which the show's moms-to-be are happy to mull on air. It's also the subject that generated a grossout factor among some on social media.

But is dating while pregnant

really all that wacky?

In a recent Associated Press-WE tv poll, 23 percent of men said they would consider starting a relationship with a woman who is pregnant. Among online dating options are a few sites promoting pregnant sex, hookups and even one offering "pregnant naughty chat."

Dating wasn't about sex for Melissa Meister, a modelturned-stylist in Los Angeles. Divorced, she attempted to have a baby on her own through a donor when she and her boyfriend of three years began trying together, and voila!

"About two months into my pregnancy I noticed that he posted he was in a relationship with somebody else on Facebook," she said in a recent telephone interview.

getting to know people and really finding out who they are, and for the first time in my life being confident to know my boundaries and what it is that that person would need to deliver in order to be in my life."

pregnant and dating Among her dates was an aspiring actor, Eric Joseph. The two were introduced by a mutual friend and Joseph knew she was pregnant. He was new to Hollywood at the time of filming several months ago.

"I was kind of hesitant at Dating, she said, was "about first, you know, considering the whole pregnant thing," said the 30-year-old. Sex, he said, wasn't on the table.

> "That really wasn't even part of the equation. If I had tried I think I would have gotten a slap in the face," he chuckled.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Ringo Starr writes 'Octopus' Garden' as kids' book

NEW YORK (AP)—Ringo Starr is turning an old Beatles favorite into a children's book. The drummer has a deal with Simon & Schuster's Children Books for "Octopus' Garden," based on one of the few songs the drummer wrote and sang while

with the Beatles. The publisher announced Tuesday that the book will come out in Britain this fall and in the U.S. in early 2014. The book will be illustrated by Ben Cort, whose credits include "Aliens Love Underpants." Starr, who turns 73 next month, first wrote the song while on Peter Sellers' yacht in 1968. Starr and Sellers co-starred in the film

"The Magic Christian." "Octopus' Garden" first appeared on the Beatles' "Abbey Road" album, released in 1969.

New novel coming by 'Secret Life of' Bees' author

NEW YORK (AP)—The author of "The Secret Life of Bees" has a novel coming next year, her first since 2005. Viking announced Tuesday that Sue Monk Kidd's "The Invention of Wings" is scheduled for release Jan. 7. Kidd's novel will follow the parallel lives of urban slave Hetty "Handful" Grimke and the girl for whom she serves as a handmaid, Sarah Grimke, a real-life historical figure who grew up to become

a feminist and abolitionist. The novel is set in Charleston, South Carolina, in the 19th century. It begins when Sarah is 11 and Hetty, an invented character, is 10. "The Secret Life of Bees," published in 2002, has sold more than 6 million copies. Kidd's second novel, "The Mermaid Chair," was a bestseller published in 2005.

Dispatch call describes Paris Jackson's injuries

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Paramedics were dispatched to Paris Jackson's home on a report that the 15-year-old had taken 20 Motrin pills and cut herself with a kitchen knife, audio of an emergency dispatch released Tuesday shows.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department released audio of a call describing the need for paramedics between one of its dispatchers and a sheriff's department dispatcher who was relaying information from the home.

Paris is the only daughter of pop superstar Michael Jackson and was hospitalized after the June 5 incident.

The teen was described as conscious and breathing during the call, but no other details about her condition or what led to the injuries were given on the



This Jan. 26, 2012 file photo shows Paris Jackson, daughter of the late pop icon Michael Jackson, speaking during a hand and footprint ceremony honoring her father at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles.

call, which lasted approximate-

Perry Sanders Jr., a lawyer for her grandmother and guardian, has said Paris is physically fine and receiving appropriate medical treatment. He did not return a phone message seeking comment Tuesday.

Paris and her brothers, Prince and Blanket, are plaintiffs in a lawsuit filed by their grandmother against concert giant AEG Live LLC. The negligent hiring suit alleges AEG and its top executives failed to properly investigate the doctor convicted of administering a lethal dose of the anesthetic propofol to Michael Jackson in 2009, and that AEG Live missed warning signs about the entertainer's failing health.

The trial is in its seventh

week, with AEG Live CEO Randy Phillips on the witness stand.

Prince and Paris are listed as potential witnesses, although Sanders said last week there was no indication that stress from the trial had led to the teenager's hospitalization.

Michael Jackson's mother, Katherine Jackson, returned to court Tuesday, her first day back since her granddaughter's medical emergency. She attended only the morning session and was not present for afternoon testimony, which occurred after the dispatch call's release.

Mumford & Sons postpone dates due to illness

(AP)—Mumford & Sons bassist Ted Dwane has a blood clot on his brain that will require surgery.

The Grammy-winning folkrock group postponed concerts Tuesday in Dallas, Wednesday in The Woodlands in Texas and Thursday in New Orleans. A statement on its website said there are no plans to postpone or cancel any other appearances on the current tour. Mumford & Sons has a headlining gig Saturday at the Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival

The statement says Dwane hasn't felt well for a few days and went to the hospital Monday for emergency treatment. Scans revealed the blood clot on the surface of his brain, requiring surgery. The band is being assured

NASHVILLE, Tennessee

in Manchester, Tenn.

that he will recover quickly.

A long awaited 'Final Fantasy' returns at E3 originally intended for the Play-

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's a video game more than seven years in the making.

Square Enix revealed during Sony's presentation Monday at the Electronic Entertainment Expo that "Final Fantasy XV" would finally see the light of day. The latest entry in the longrunning role-playing series was previously known as "Final Fantasy Versus XIII" and was first revealed at E3 way back in 2006.

What's taking so long? Tetsuya Nomura, Square

Enix's chief creative head, says technology had to catch up with his imagination. The title was Station 3, but "Final Fantasy XV" will be available for the next-generation PlayStation 4 and Xbox One.

The original "Final Fantasy" was released in 1987 and has spawned dozens of sequels and spin-offs.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actor Michael Douglas' son is speak-

ing out from behind bars, calling for treatment rather than jail time for non-violent drug offenders.

Cameron Douglas wrote an essay published Tuesday by the Huffington Post that says United States laws impose tougher penalties on addicts

The top 10 songs and albums on

the iTunes Store for the week ending

1. "Blurred Lines (feat. T.I. &

Pharrell)," Robin Thicke

Williams)," Daft Punk

4. "Radioactive," Imagine Drag-

"We Can't Stop," Miley Cyrus

"Get Lucky (feat. Pharrell

"Can't Hold Us (feat. Ray

Dalton)," Ryan Lewis, Mackl-

"Come & Get It," Selena Go-

"Cruise (Remix) (feat. Nel-

"Wasting All These Tears."

"We Own It (Fast & Furious),"

"Random Access Memories,"

"... Like Clockwork," Queens

"Night Visions," Imagine

"The Great Gatsby (Music

from Baz Luhrmann's Film),"

2 Chainz & Wiz Khalifa

Nate Ruess)," P!nk

TOP ALBUMS

Daft Punk

Dragons

of the Stone Age

Various Artists

ly)," Florida Georgia Line

Cassadee Pope

CHART TOPPERS

June 10, 2013:

TOP SONGS

than violent criminals. The 34-year-old is serving a 9 1/2year prison sentence after various drug violations.

Cameron Douglas pens drug policy essay from jail

Douglas was first convicted in 2010 of selling methamphetamine, and a judge nearly doubled that sentence after he was found guilty of repeatedly breaking prison rules by arrang-

"The Heist," Macklemore &

"Here's to the Good Times,"

ing to get drugs.

Douglas writes that he "seem(s) to be trapped in a vicious cycle of relapse and repeat, as most addicts are." He says a long prison sentence without adequate treatment "does absolutely nothing but temporarily deter them from succumbing to their weakness."

- Emoji Pop (Gamoji Limited)
- Florida Georgia Line "The 20/20 Experience," Justin Timberlake
- 10. "Settle," Disclosure

Ryan Lewis

The top iPhone and iPad apps on App Store for the week ending June 10, 2013:

TOP PAID IPHONE APPS

- 1. WhatsApp Messenger (WhatsApp Inc.)
- 2. Heads Up! (Warner Bros.)
- 3. Minecraft Pocket Edition (Mojang)
- (Ironhide Game Studio)
- 5. SpongeBob Moves In (Nickelodeon)
- 6. AfterLight (Simon Filip)
- 7. Survivalcraft (Igor Kalicinski)
- 10. "Just Give Me a Reason (feat. Mextures (Merek Davis Com
 - 9. Plague Inc. (Ndemic Creations)
 - 10. Kick the Buddy: No Mercy (Realmac Software)

TOP FREE IPHONE APPS

- 1. Candy Crush Saga, (King.com Limited)
- 2. Dumb Ways to Die (Metro Trains Melbourne Pty Ltd.)
- Vine (Vine Labs Inc.)
- "Feel," Sleeping With Sirens 4. Hi Guess the Brand (Man "Based on a True Story," **Blake Shelton** Zhang)

- 5. Snapchat (Snapchat Inc.)
- Tetris Blitz (Electronic Arts)
- Crazy Dentist Fun Games
- (George CL)
 - 9. YouTube (Google Inc.)
 - 10. Turbo Racing League (Pik-Pok)

TOP PAID IPAD APPS

- 1. SpongeBob Moves In (Nickelodeon)
- Kingdom Rush Frontiers HD (Ironhide Game Studio)
- Minecraft Pocket Edition (Mojang)
- Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic (Aspyr Media Inc.)
- 4. Kingdom Rush Frontiers 5. Doc McStuffins: Time For Your Check Up! (Disney)
 - 6. Plants vs. Zombies HD (Pop-
 - 7. Survivalcraft (Igor Kalicinski)
 - 8. Heads Up! (Warner Bros.) 9. Pages (Apple)
 - 10. Grandma's Kitchen (Fairlady Media)

TOP FREE IPAD APPS

- 1. Candy Crush Saga, (King.com Limited)
- Dumb Ways to Die (Metro Trains Melbourge Pty Ltd.)
- Crazy Dentist Fun Games (George CL)
- 4. Hi Guess the Brand (Man Zhang)
- Bird Zapper! (Namco Networks America Inc. Games)

- 6. Snoopy Coaster (Chillingo Ltd.)
- 7. YouTube (Google Inc.)
- 8. Tetris Blitz (Electronic Arts) 9. UNO & Friends — The Clas-
- sic Card Game Goes Social! (Gameloft)
- 10. Turbo Racing League (Pik-Pok)

The top 10 books on Apple's iTunes

TOP 10 BOOKS

- 1. "Entwined with You," by Sylvia Day (Penguin Group US)
- "Inferno," by Dan Brown (Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group)
- "And the Mountains Echoed," by Khaled Hosseini (Penguin Group US)
- "Revenge Wears Prada," by Lauren Weisberger (Simon & Schuster)
- "The Great Gatsby," by F. Scott Fitzgerald (Scribner)
- "Forever You (Forever Trilogy, (hash)2)," by Sandi Lynn (Sandi Lynn)
- "The Hit," by David Baldacci (Grand Central Publishing)
- "World War Z," by Max Brooks (Crown Publishing Group)
- "Ladies' Night," by Mary Kay Andrews (St. Martin's Press)
- 10. "Gone Girl," by Gillian Flynn (Crown Publishing Group)

Learn signs of elder abuse to prevent it from happening

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for all you do to keep our seniors safe. Saturday, June 15, is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. On that day, communities in the USA and all over the world will sponsor events to highlight the growing tragic issue of elder abuse.

Your readers—young and old -should know that the U.S. Administration on Aging estimates that as many as 5 million seniors



are abused or neglected each year in the United States.

Elder abuse can be physical, emotional, financial and sexual. It also includes people who are neglected. Elders who are abused are twice as likely to be hospitalized, four times as likely to go into nursing homes and three times as likely to die.

Elder abuse can be prevented if everyone would learn the warning signs and report it to Adult Protective Services or the police if they suspect it is happening.

> MARY TWOMEY, MSW, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-IRVINE

DEAR READERS: I was dismayed to learn that 90 percent of elder abuse happens at the hands of a family member or a caregiver. The descriptions of the kinds of treatment these elderly adults experience are frightening, and frankly, not suitable for readers of all ages. That is why I am urging readers to get more information on this important subject by visiting www.ncea.aoa.gov.

We can all stop this scourge if we know what to look for and are willing to speak up when we see the warning signs. There, but for the grace of God, go you and I.

DEAR ABBY: I was married to a wonderful man, "Ted," who was 20 years my senior. In social situations his adult children would introduce me as "Dad's wife" or "Ted's wife." Sadly, my husband passed away, and his children no longer know how to refer to me socially.

I was recently asked by Ted's children how I wished to be introduced, but I'm not sure. I don't think "stepmother" is appropriate because I'm only four to seven years older than they are. Do you have any ideas as to what might be appropriate?

"MARILYN" IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR "MARILYN": You could be introduced as "Dad's widow," "my late father's wife" or simply by your name.

DEAR ABBY: Some friends are in the process of adopting two children internationally. Early on, they had a garage sale with the proceeds going toward the adoption. I was excited for them and wanted to help. However, this was soon followed by more requests—for yard sale donations, two more garage sales, the "opportunity" to buy expensive coffee online, a fundraising dinner, and then a solicitation for me and others to provide a "virtual shower" of plane ticket money.

Each time I am notified about another fundraiser, I feel less and less charitable. I have never been asked for money for the same thing in so many different ways in such a short time. While I'm thrilled with their desire to adopt, I am increasingly disgusted and put off by their continued pleas for money. Am I wrong to be so upset about this?

A LITTLE TICKED OFF

DEAR TICKED OFF: It appears your "friends" are taking advantage of your generosity. It will continue for only as long as you permit it. Because the requests for help are continuous, are you absolutely sure this couple is really in the middle of the adoption process and not using the money for some other purpose? Before donating anything else, you should find out.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

22 THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis







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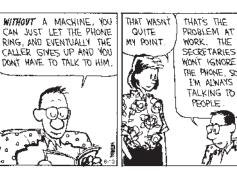
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Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy















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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kendra Wilkinson, 28; Dave Franco, 28; Scott Thompson, 54; Timothy Busfield, 56 Happy Birthday: Let your charm guide you to

success. Keep life simple and refrain from making unnecessary or abrupt changes to your life that you may regret. Think matters through and use your past experience to cultivate the best tactic or strategy. Solutions that are based on proven or practical methods will get you back on track. Partnerships must be nurtured. Your numbers are 5, 11, 16, 22, 30, 36, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April. 19): Take on what you find exciting and inspiring and walk away from anyone or anything that has a negative spin. It's important to take action and be a participant if you want to expand your friendships and opportunities.

TAURUS (April. 20-May 20): Voice your opinion and get things accomplished. Once you put your plans in motion, you will get everyone around you to show more enthusiasm. Love and romance are on the rise, and sharing common interests will bring you closer together. 😂

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't reveal your thoughts, especially if it pertains to a work-related matter. Size up the situation you face and determine what you have to do to show your talent and value to whatever job you do. Moderation will be necessary. ❖❖❖❖

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Step outside your comfort zone and give a unique spin to whatever you do. Show your strength as well as your determination to be at your very

best. Relationships will undergo changes that are unexpected. Nurture the partnerships you cherish.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Embrace change, but don't let others dictate what you decide to do. Act on your own merit and offer what you feel comfortable parting with. Keep your money in a safe place and restrict your generosity to physical, not financial assistance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take care of business in order to avoid being criticized. An emotional problem due to an investment, money matter or health situation must be

taken care of in an unorthodox manner Disillusionment regarding a partnership is likely.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Proceed with caution when dealing with both personal and professional relationships. You have options and should take the time to learn, study and practice in order to be at your top level of performance. OOOO

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do something that will allow you to explore an unusual or unique creative idea or talent. Getting together with people you find inspiring or would like to collaborate with will bring you one step closer to your goal. Love is on the rise. 🗪

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A carefree attitude may help entertain others, but it probably won't get you what you want in the end. Change can be good, but it must be made for the right reasons. Evaluate your current relationships and make amends where necessary. 00000

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look at your investments and make any alterations that will ensure your financial safety. Sizing

down or making a wise purchase that will grow in value will set the stage for years to come. Don't be fooled by a slick sales pitch. ••••

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Socialize, network and consider the changes you can make to improve your future. A solid partnership will help you stay on track. A creative idea or a service you can offer will turn into a moneymaker if you present it properly. •••

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A short trip will lead to new prospects that can combine your talent, skills and knowledge. A commitment to a project or a partnership looks positive. Leave room for love and romance as your day comes to a close.

Birthday Baby: You are charming, expressive and intelligent. You are sensitive and loving.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Vootorday's CHDOVII Answer

	testerday's Suduku Aliswer												
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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters

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- Providing training to strengthen his/her team's current performance and monitor ing cooks and chefs for proper skills and service

monitoring workstations & staff for adherence to those procedures.

- ing cooks and chefs for proper skills and serviceRecommending the budget and managing food and labor costs within approved
- Recommending the budget and managing rood and labor costs within approve budget constraints without affecting quality standards

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- successful identification of expense reduction through cost control

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Spurs rout Heat 113-77 in Game 3 of NBA Finals



(AP)—Danny Green and Gary Neal aren't NBA royalty like LeBron James.

Either undrafted or unwanted, they were once more likely to be found playing in summer league or some other country than against the mighty Miami Heat.

On Tuesday, they led the San Antonio Spurs to one of the best-shooting, biggest blowouts in NBA Finals history.

Green made seven of the Spurs' finals-record 16 3-pointers, Tim Duncan had 12 points and 14 rebounds, and the Spurs clobbered the Heat 113-77 on Tuesday night to take 2-1 lead in the series.

Green scored 27 points and Gary Neal made six 3-pointers while scoring 24 as San Antonio went 16 of 32 from behind the arc, rolling to the third-biggest victory in finals history.

"Those guys shot incredibly," Duncan said. "Gave us the breathing room when we needed it."

Neal could be even more important going forward, after starting point guard Tony Parker revealed fresh concerns about his sore hamstring. He plans to get an MRI on Wednesday.

Duncan bounced back from his worst game ever in the finals, and the Spurs' combination of fresh faces and old reliables dominated the NBA's winningest team before an eager crowd that hadn't seen the finals here since 2007.

"It shouldn't be a surprise," said Spurs coach Gregg Popovich. "These are the last two teams standing. I don't think either one of them is going to get down if they have a bad night."

The Spurs were as good as fans remembered in the old days, shutting down James until they had built a huge lead late in the third quarter.

James finished with 15 points and 11 rebounds, but missed 11 of his first 13 shots against the excellent defense of Kawhi Leonard, who had 14 points and 12 rebounds.

"Honestly, I just have to play better," James said. "I can't have a performance like tonight and expect to win."

Game 4 is Thursday here, where the Heat are 3-22 in the regular season and so far zero wins and one really bad beating in the postseason.

"We got what we deserved," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "I didn't even recognize the team that was out there tonight."

Duncan shot 3 of 13 for nine points, his worst performance ever in his 25 NBA Finals games, in the Heat's 103-84 victory Sunday. Parker wasn't much better, shooting 5 of 14 and committing five turnovers, and Manu Ginobili admitted afterward the veteran trio had to play well for the Spurs to win.

They were fine, but the lesser-knowns were better.

Parker and Ginobili com-



San Antonio Spurs' Danny Green, left, reacts with Gary Neal after scoring during the first half at Game 3 of the NBA Finals basketball series against the Miami Heat, Tuesday, June 11, 2013, in San Antonio.

bined for 14 assists, but the bigger story was the guys who had never played on this stage before.

- Neal, who went undrafted after playing for LaSalle and Towson, then playing overseas for three seasons in Italy, Spain and Turkey.
- Green, who had been cut multiple times—including by James' Cavaliers—and now has the shot to stick.

■ Leonard, the draft-night trade acquisition from San Diego State who played the NBA's four-time MVP to a stalemate.

"It's a dream come true," Neal said. "Me and Danny both went through a lot of stuff together. We were guys that showed up two hours before practice started to get shots up and to prove to the coaching staff that we belong, and we're going to do whatever we need to

do to get minutes.

"So me and Danny, we were able to play great tonight."

Mike Miller made all five 3-pointers and scored 15 points for the Heat, who broke open Sunday's game and seized momentum in the series with a 33-5 run in the second half.

The Spurs seized it right back, improving to 18-7 in the finals, the best winning percentage of any team with 20 or more

games

A brief flurry by James had Miami within 15 after three quarters, but Neal, Green and Leonard combined on a 13-0 run to open the fourth, Green's 3-pointer making it 91-63.

"All of my teammates and Pop. They do a great job of encouraging me. They continue to tell me to shoot the ball. They continue to tell me whenever I'm open, to let it fly," Green said.

The NBA hadn't made its way along San Antonio's River Walk this late in the season since 2007, and fans couldn't wait to have the Spurs back. They sang and danced and clapped around the concourse and in their seats, as if their favorite rock band had returned for a concert.

And they were thrilled to see the Duncan they recognized from his first 24 finals appearances.

He got right on the board in this one, with a short jumper 20 seconds into the game. The Spurs, who had played from behind most of the series, had a 24-20 lead after making 11 of 18 shots in the first quarter.

Duncan hit a pair of three throws and another basket, and after a jumper by Neal, he threw a long outlet to Leonard for a dunk that made it 40-30.

Neal's 3 made it 43-32, but Miller hit a pair of 3-pointers in a 12-1 run that tied it at 44 with 37 seconds in the half, the Heat appearing set to go into the half with momentum. But Parker drilled a 3 from the corner, and after Green blocked James' shot, the Spurs rushed it up for a 3-pointer by Neal that fell at the buzzer, the reserve guard pointing back toward his defenders before the Spurs headed to the locker room with a 50-44 advantage.

The party played on all right, with a huge roar when Tracy McGrady, a former perennial All-Star now in his first finals appearance as a member of the Spurs' bench, checked in midway through the fourth quarter. He was scoreless with three assists.

James started 2 for 13, then made his final four shots of the third as the Heat got within 13 before Ginobili fired a nifty pass to Tiago Splitter under the basket for a score with 0.1 seconds remaining, making it 78-63 and setting the stage for the big fourth-quarter finish.

"They came out in the third quarter and they kicked our butt pretty good and frustration started to set in," the Heat's Dwyane Wade said.

It was a potentially pivotal victory for the Spurs in their quest to go 5 for 5 in the finals. Since the NBA Finals went to a 2-3-2 format in 1985, the Game 3 winner when the series was tied 1-1 has gone on to win 12 of the 13 titles—though the Heat were the lone one that didn't, in 2011.

Sources: Tebow signs 2-year deal with Patriots



FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—Tim

Mass. (AP)—Tim Tebow and Tom Brady took turns, zipping passes over

the middle and lofting tosses toward the corner of the end zone.

On his first day with the Patriots, the New England newcomer was just a backup quarterback, No. 5 on his helmet and number three on the depth chart.

And when practice ended Tuesday, Tebow talked—for all of 40 seconds.

"First and foremost, I just want to thank the Patriots for giving me an opportunity," Tebow said.

For now, that's all it is.

No promises of trick plays. No huge media circus. Not even a guaranteed job.

To coach Bill Belichick, the focus is on football. And where Tebow fits in, well, the Patriots plan to find out.

"I don't know. We'll see," Belichick said.

Two people with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press that Tebow was signed for two years but no assured money. One person says he will make the veteran's minimum salary, \$630,000 in 2013, with incentives.

The Patriots already may be making money on their investment. The team's pro shop was taking pre-orders for jerseys with his last name—and no

number—on the back. Prices ranged from \$69.95 to \$99.95, with free shipping.

Tebow prefers the number 15, but second-string quarterback Ryan Mallett already has it.

During practice, the three QBs worked under the close scrutiny of offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels, who drafted Tebow in 2010 when he was the head coach of the Denver Broncos.

They all threw good spirals, although Tebow's velocity and delivery appeared to be the slowest.

Asked how much McDaniels' background with Tebow contributed to the signing, Belichick shed no light.

"I don't know," Belichick said

About 10 minutes before the workout ended, Patriots owner Robert Kraft walked up to Tebow and shook hands. Kraft put his arm around Tebow's back and Tebow put his arm on Kraft's shoulder. They chatted for a few minutes as Tebow threw.

"It's such an honor to be a Patriot and play for coach Belichick and coach McDaniels, learn under Tom and to be a part of this great franchise and part of a very successful franchise," Tebow said. "I found that out firsthand. I lost to them several times."

Tebow then strolled off with-

out taking questions.

Quite a contrast to Tebow's introductory press session with the New York Jets last year. He spoke for 30 minutes at that gathering, moved from the normal media room to the team's field house because the turnout was so large.

At 25, Tebow owns a Heisman Trophy, two college national championship rings and one NFL playoff victory, plus a global following based as much on his beliefs as his ballplaying.

With a rack of Super Bowl trophies in their possession, the Patriots want wins, not headlines.

Tebow joined the perennial playoff team for the first practice of its three-day minicamp. It's uncertain whether the left-hander QB will last until training camp in late July or the first exhibition game on Aug. 9 at Philadelphia. And the season opener in Buffalo on Sept. 8 is still nearly three months away.

By that time, he might even have another position—H-back, tight end or punt protector.

But at least he has an NFL job after signing with the Patriots on Tuesday. That prospect seemed to be a long shot when no team hurried to sign him after the Jets cut him on April 29, three days after they drafted quarterback Geno Smith out of West Virginia.

Belichick, as usual, was brief

in his hopes for Tebow.

"We'll try to do what we think is best for our football team," Belichick said.

Might he be used on special teams on defense?

"We'll see. I don't know."
What about people who have questioned his ability to play quarterback in the NFL?

"I've already said that," Belichick he said. "I've answered the question twice. He's a talented player who is smart and works hard."

Tebow's former coach with the Jets wasn't about to offer any advice to Belichick, either.

"Oh, please, he's not going to listen to me, and he shouldn't," Rex Ryan said. "He'll just do what he does, and that makes sense."

Ryan never found a way to use Tebow productively after the Jets acquired him to great fanfare following his trade from the Denver Broncos in March 2013.

"I'm happy for the young man to get another opportunity in the league," Ryan said. "Obviously, Tim had more success in Denver than he did here."

New York went 6-10 last season, while New England was 12-4 and advanced to the AFC title game. With the Jets, Tebow completed six of eight passes and ran 32 times for 102 yards.

Tebow had a lot more success in college at Florida. With the

Patriots, he's reunited with two former college teammates, tight end Aaron Hernandez and linebacker Brandon Spikes.

"It's good to see a Gator in the building," Spikes said. "I was happy for him. He got to get his job back and ... come out here and compete, so that's good to see him smile, that big smile I'm used to seeing the last few years down in Florida."

Hernandez caught 111 passes in three years as Tebow's college teammate and was surprised when the Patriots signed him.

"I was a little shocked and I was happy because we had a long relationship in college and it's good to play with a college teammate again," Hernandez said. "Great teammate. Great leader."

Brady is still one of the NFL's best quarterbacks, so there will be no quarterback controversy as there was in New York, where fans clamored for Tebow to replace a struggling Mark Sanchez.

On the Patriots, he's merely a player looking to compete for a roster spot.

"It's going to be a lot of fun," Tebow said. "I'm looking forward to working hard every single day and getting a lot better and learning under some great people. So that's all I got, but thank you all so much and God bless. I'm sure we'll be talking more soon."

Bautista, Blue Jays beat White Sox 7-5 in 10



(AP)—Jose Bautista hit a

game-tying home run in the ninth inning and Rajai Davis scored on a wild pitch in the 10th to lead the Toronto Blue Jays to a 7-5 win over the Chicago White Sox at a dimmed U.S. Cellular Field on Tuesday night.

Chien-Ming Wang made his first start of the season after signing with the injury-riddled Blue Jays, lasting 7 1-3 innings while giving up five runs and 10 hits.

During the 10th, there was a brief delay after a handful of bulbs in the light standards above the infield at U.S. Cellular Field went out as Ramon Troncoso (0-1) prepared to throw his 2-1 pitch to Adam Lind. Following the delay, Davis scored on Troncoso's wild pitch.

Brett Cecil (2-0) went 1 2-3 innings for the win and Casey Janssen pitched a scoreless 10th for his 13th save in 14 tries.

Tigers 3, Royals 2

In Kansas, Mo., Max Scherzer won his ninth straight decision, and the Tigers beat Kansas City to snap the Royals' six-game winning streak.

Scherzer became the first Tigers starter to begin the season 9-0 since Vern Kennedy in 1938 by pitching seven sharp innings.

He limited the Royals to three hits and two runs, while striking out six and walking two.

Aaron Crow (2-2), who was a college teammate of Scherzer's at Missouri, took the loss after pitching out of a bases loaded jam in the seventh.

Crow hit Miguel Cabrera with a pitch to start the eighth. Cabrera advanced to third on Prince Fielder's single to right on a full count and scored on Victor Martinez's sacrifice fly to left. That was the first run allowed by the Kansas City bullpen in 21 innings.

Indians 5, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Texas, Corey Kluber allowed one run over eight innings and the Indians beat the Rangers to snap an eight-game losing streak.

The Indians also ended a 12-game road losing streak.

Mark Reynolds had RBI single in the fourth off Derek Holland (5-3) that put Cleveland ahead to stay. Drew Stubbs added a two-run single in the fifth and scored on a single by Nick Swisher, who had only two hits his previous 28 at-bats.

Kluber (4-4) went to Coppell High School, which is less than 25 miles from Rangers Ballpark. The right-hander struck out three with three walks and benefited from three double plays.

Lefty Holland, who pitched a season-low 4 1-3 innings, was 4-0 with a 2.40 ERA in his previous seven starts.

Orioles 3, Angels 2

In Baltimore, Miguel Gonzalez



Members of the Toronto Blue Jays celebrate after defeating the Chicago White Sox 7-5 in ten innings of a baseball game in Chicago, Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

allowed one run over eight innings and Nick Markakis hit a tiebreaking, two-run single in the seventh inning as the Orioles beat the Angels.

Light-hitting Ryan Flaherty contributed two well-timed hits for the Orioles, whose third straight victory put them a season-high nine games over .500 (37-28).

The Angels lost their fourth in a row despite a home run by Mike Trout that traveled an estimated 448 feet.

Angels center fielder Peter Bourjos made the defensive play of the night, robbing J.J. Hardy of a two-run homer in the first inning. After retreating toward the warning track, Bourjos pressed his body against the wall with a perfectly timed leap, stuck his glove well over the 7-foot barrier and caught the ball.

Rays 8, Red Sox 3

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Matt Joyce hit one of three homers off Jon Lester to help the Rays beat the AL East-leading Red Sox.

Joyce, one day after being hit by a pitch that sparked a benchclearing scrum, put the Rays up 7-3 on a two-run shot in the fifth that ended Lester's night.

Desmond Jennings homered twice, while Evan Longoria also went deep for the Rays. Roberto Hernandez (4-6) allowed three runs and seven hits over seven-plus innings.

Lester (6-3) had his winless streak reach five starts, including three losses, since beating the Rays on May 15. The left-hander gave up seven runs, eight hits and seven walks in 4 2-3 innings.

Mariners 4, Astros O

In Seattle, Aaron Harang pitched a two-hitter for his second shoutout of the season, leading the Mariners to a victory over the Astros.

Harang (3-6) struck out a season-high 10, the 12th time in his career he had 10 Ks with

no walks. It was his 15th career complete game and eighth shutout. He also beat San Diego 9-0 on May 27.

Harang allowed a two-out infield single to deep short by J.D. Martinez in the second inning. He then retired 16 of the next 17 batters. The only Astros batter to reach during that span was Brandon Barnes on a sixth-inning error.

Martinez also had the other hit, an inning-opening single to left in the seventh. He never advanced past first.

Raul Ibanez hit his teamleading 13th home run—his second in an many nights—in the sixth inning.

Athletics 6, Yankees 4

In Oakland, Calif., Derek Norris homered and drove in four runs and Bartolo Colon pitched six scoreless innings to lead the Athletics to a victory over the Yankees

Coco Crisp led off the game for Oakland with a homer off CC Sabathia (6-5) before Norris and Colon (8-2) took over to lead the A's to their eighth win in 11 games.

Sabathia allowed six runs and eight hits in six innings in his homecoming start in front of many fans that came from his hometown of nearby Vallejo to watch him pitch.

The A's did get some bad news when star outfielder Yoenis Cespedes had to leave the game after the second inning with tightness in his left hamstring. He is day to day. Cespedes appeared to hurt himself running out a groundout in the first inning.

Twins 3, Phillies 2

In Minneapolis, Justin Morneau hit the go-ahead single in the eighth inning to cap a three-hit night and carry the Twins to a win over the Phillies.

Jamey Carroll—who had two hits and snapped a 0-for-24 slump—drew a walk to start the eighth off reliever Mike Adams (1-4) and ended up on third after a Joe Mauer single and a fielder's choice.

Josh Willingham fouled out before Morneau lined a single up the middle off Antonio Bastardo to give Minnesota the lead.

Philadelphia tied it at 2 in the eighth when Ryan Howard's single off reliever Brian Duensing (1-1) scored Kevin Frandsen.

Dodgers 5, Diamondbacks 3

In Los Angeles, in a game highlighted by a heated brawl in the seventh inning that involved both players and coaches, Tim Federowicz hit a go-ahead threerun double in the eighth inning to help the Los Angeles Dodgers rally for a victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Arizona starter Ian Kennedy, manager Kirk Gibson and coach Turner Ward, along with Dodgers star rookie Yasiel Puig and hitting coach Mark McGwire were ejected after the prolonged bench-clearing scuffle.

Kennedy hit Los Angeles starter Zack Greinke with a pitch, a retaliation throw that triggered the fracas that nearly spilled into the stands.

An inning earlier, Greinke hit Diamondbacks catcher Miguel Montero in the back and both teams came charging onto the field but it broke up quickly with no punches thrown. That was payback for Kennedy hitting Puig. The ball deflected off his shoulder and struck Puig on the nose.

Pirates 8, Giants 2

In Pittsburgh, Gerrit Cole took a shutout into the seventh inning of his major league debut and hit a two-run single in his first at-bat, leading the Pirates to a victory over the Giants in front of a festive crowd.

The top pick in the 2011 draft, Cole allowed two runs and seven hits in 6 1-3 innings after being called up from Triple-A Indianapolis earlier in the day. He began his highly touted career with a three-pitch strike-out — all 96-mph fastballs — of Gregor Blanco and struck out two overall. He did not walk a batter.

Pedro Alvarez went 3 for 3 with a home run to back Cole. Starling Marte also homered and Andrew McCutchen and Russell Martin had two hits each

Cardinals 9, Mets 2

In New York, Michael Wacha recovered from a wild start to earn his first major league win and Allen Craig hit a three-run homer for the Cardinals in a victory over the staggering Mets.

Matt Holliday had three hits and the NL Central leaders took full advantage of a crucial error by new Mets first baseman Daniel Murphy, who was shifted over from second after slumping Ike Davis got demoted to the minors Sunday.

David Freese extended his career-high hitting streak to 20 games, longest in the National League this season, and Wacha even knocked in a run with a groundout for his first RBI.

Omar Quintanilla homered for the Mets, who gave up seven unearned runs and lost for the seventh time in eight games.

Marlins 5, Brewers 4

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton hit his first homer since coming off the disabled list, a two-run drive with two outs in the eighth inning that lifted the Marlins to a victory over the Brewers.

With Juan Pierre on first, Stanton connected on the first pitch from Jim Henderson (2-2), sending a drive over the wall in left-center. It was his fourth home run this year. He was activated from the DL on Monday.

Chad Qualls (2-0) pitched a perfect eighth and Steve Cishek a scoreless ninth for his

ceventh cave

Derek Dietrich had a two-run homer for Miami, which has won three of four.

The Brewers took a 4-3 lead in the seventh when Yuniesky Betancourt tripled in a run to tie it before scoring the go-ahead run on pinch-hitter Scooter Gennett's suicide squeeze.

Reds 12, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Xavier Paul hit a three-run home run, Joey Votto added a two-run shot and the Reds roughed up Matt Garza and the Cubs.

Tony Cingrani (3-0), filling in for the injured Johnny Cueto, pitched seven strong innings as Cincinnati extended its franchise-best winning streak at Wrigley Field to 11 games. Cingrani, from Chicago's South Suburbs, allowed two runs and four hits, while striking out five and allowing one walk.

Zack Cozart also added a three-run shot in the eighth and Todd Frazier hit a solo home run in the second inning for the Reds.

Garza (1-1) was tagged for a career-high nine runs and nine hits in five-plus innings. He was lifted in the sixth after allowing six runs without retiring a batter.

Rockies 8, Nationals 3

In Denver, Jhoulys Chacin won for the first time since April, Tyler Colvin homered twice and drove in four runs, and the Rockies beat the Nationals.

Carlos Gonzalez also hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in Colorado's five-run fifth inning.

Chacin (4-3) allowed two runs on seven hits in five innings to end a string of four straight no decisions and three consecutive losses since his last win on April 19, when he pitched into the seventh inning to beat the Arizona Diamondbacks only to be forced out of that game by lower back tightness. He spent a couple weeks on the disabled list recuperating.

Trailing 2-0, the Rockies got to Dan Haren (4-8) in the fifth, sending 10 men to the plate.

Padres 3, Braves 2

In San Diego, Andrew Cashner outdueled Tim Hudson, Chase Headley homered and the Padres beat the Braves for the second straight game.

Cashner (5-3) pitched a career high eight innings, allowing two runs on six hits, striking out five and walking one. At one point Cashner retired 10 straight batters after giving up one run and three hits in the first inning.

Joe Thatcher struck out Freddie Freeman and Brian McCann to start the ninth and Luke Gregerson came on to strike out Dan Uggla for his third save in five opportunities.

Hudson (4-6) pitched 7 1-3 innings for the Braves, allowing three runs on five hits.

The Padres have won five of seven, while the Braves have lost four of six.

Choi gains two wins via sweeps

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Defending champion Hannah Choi went home with two wins after last Saturday's games in the 2013 IT&E Mixed Doubles and Singles Badminton Tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

Choi first swept Jen Savelleno in the women's single A, 21-7, 21-12, to keep her perfect record in the division, as she also won her opening match against Malou Malasarte, 21-17, 21-11. Then in the mixed doubles A, Choi partnered with Oh Im Boh and they defeated Marlene

Peraja and Macoi Aguda after only two games, 21-12, 21-10.

Oh also played two games last Saturday, as he teamed up with Alma Ortega in downing Loida Ito and Celso Agui in 21-13.

Twelve other matches played in Day 8 of the annual competition and majority of were decided after only two

In the mixed doubles C, Rowena Sison and Bong Magrazon topped siblings Nicole and Jerome Malasarte, 21-16, 21-19,

while in class B, Savellano and Kanata Omori handed Ito and Agui another loss, 21-14, 21-16, and made it two in a row after prevailing over Manatsu Omori and Cris Obaldo, 21-16, the mixed doubles B, 21-10, 21-17. In other class B results,

Chris Hilario and Fernandez Windy slipped past Daniel Shen and Cheng Saturno, 21-

15, 20-21, 21-16, while Elna Curate and Rodwealth Espana also triumphed over Shen and Saturno, 21-20, 16-21, 21-13. Also recording a win in class B were siblings Janelle and Jordan Pangilinan, who dominated

through it all. It's time for the

U.S. Open, and we tee it up in

That handshake might be their

Garcia said the range on Mon-

day was not the right time to

apologize to Woods, but that the

world's No. 1 player was gone

only meeting this week.

two days."

Elma Labuson and Puy Macario, 21-12, 21-16.

In the singles C division, Dianne Francisco swept Havikka Farro, 21-16, 21-15, while Sison rallied past Nicole Malasarte, 19-21, 21-20, 21-17, and Panapa Peteru won via default over Kevin Park.

In the singles B, the Pangilinan siblings were also victorious with Jordan thwarting Espana, 21-16, 21-15, and Janelle sweeping Merlie Tolentino, 21-19, 21-16. In the other women's B singles game, Jen Cardinio prevailed over Cristy Villaflor, 21-14, 21-16.

And there is some question whether Woods will even see

The dispute with Woods began during a rain delay at The Players Championship. Garcia implied in a TV interview that Woods purposely riled up the gallery by pulling a 5-wood from his bag to play a risky shot out of the trees, and that Woods should have been paying enough attention to realize

end, they might not see each other again.

Woods rarely goes into the locker room at the majors, except for the Masters. Through the years, his locker has been filled with requests for him to autograph various items, and outside vendors try to leave messages for him.

the Spaniard was about to hit.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hannah Choi watches Oh Im Bog's attempt for a return to Macoi Aguda and Marlene Peraja during their mixed doubles A game in the IT&E tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROTA

From Page 28

Regional Championship. Rota will still compete in ASPAC to be held in the Philippines next month, as it got a slot in the intermediate division, which is popularly known as Little League's 50-70.

According to Ada and the official Little League website, the 50-70 division was first introduced in January 2010 for players in the 12 and 13 age group and uses a 50-foot pitching distance and 70-foot base paths. However, this year will be the first time that the division will be played in the regionals and World Series. Several Junior League rules will be used in the intermediate division.

Ada added only Rota was chartered in the newest division, so it gained an ASPAC ticket.

Meanwhile, the acting district head said with Rota pulling out in the weekend tournament, Big and Major division matches will only be played on Saturday and Sunday. Saipan teams are expected to arrive on Tinian tomorrow.

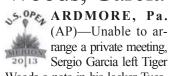
The Saipan Major All-Stars are composed of Donavid Ada, Kimo Angailen, Luis Blas, Dennis Cabrera, Jose Camacho, Tyresse Camacho, Spencer Dickinson, Philip Kapileo, Jordan Klee Kosam, Jr., Pedro Maratita, Dai Podziewski, Shakobe Rangamar, Leonarado Salalila, and Sho Taguchi. Antonio Camacho is the team manager, while David Ada Jr. and Cadiz Tenorio are the coaches.

Saipan Baseball League regular season MVP Jordan Pangelinan banners the Big League All-Stars and will be joined by Jeremy Atalig, Quinson Blas, Jared Sablan, Ricardo Dela Cruz, Anthony and Jonah Flores, Ruselle Hocog, Lamarc Iguel, Greg Iskawa, Peter Lieto, Poland Masaharu Jr., David Matagolai, Leroy Regis, Patrick Tenorio Jr., and Robert Tudela. Completing the team are manager Joseph Flores and coaches Patrick Tenorio Sr. and Juan Manibusan.

Tinian Big League All-Stars have a 12-player roster. The list includes Marvin Cruz, Jean Dela Cruz, Terrence Maratita, Christian Masga, Jose Pangelinan, Darius Pettis, Estevan Sablan, Victor Shai, Lucio Sanchez, Jorel San Nicolas, and Joey and Venny Untalan. San San Nicolas is the manager, while Fritz and Roland San Nicolas are the coaches.

Rudein Sablan is the manager of Tinian Major All-Stars, who are composed of Gregory Santos, Rudy Sablan, Adrien Cruz, Sylvestre Palacios, Shawn Cruz, Edwin Hofschneide, David Sanbergen, Eron Borja, Dylan and Jarren San Nicolas, Joey Pangelinan, John Enano, and Kimo Adriano. Rudy Santos, Ken Cruz, and Eugene San Nicolas are the coaches.

Woods, Garcia don't connect beyond handshake done. We've already gone



Woods a note in his locker Tuesday at the U.S. Open with hopes of moving on from his racially charged comment and getting back to playing golf.

"I did leave him a note—a handwritten note," Garcia said. "And hopefully, he can take a look at it. It's a big week and I understand that it's difficult to meet up and stuff. So hopefully, I'll be able to do it. If not, at least he has read the note and he's happy with that."

The note presumably was an apology—Garcia said it would be up to Woods to share the contents.

opening games were held at

the Fiesta Resort & Spa tennis

courts with the CNMI earn-

ing five wins in the morning

matches. Negahr Rastguiy

opened her bid with a 6-2, 6-1

victory over fellow CNMI net-

ter Liza Atalig, while Tammy

Ackerman coasted to a 6-0,

6-1 triumph over Ami Tsu-

kagoshi. Isabel Heras routed

CNMI

From Page 28

LIVING

From Page 28

It was the latest—and perhaps final—chapter in a messy feud that ended badly for the Spaniard when he jokingly said at awards dinner in England that he would invite Woods over for dinner during the U.S. Open. "We will serve fried chicken," Garcia said.

He apologized to Woods and everyone he offended in a news conference the next day and said he left a message for Woods through his agent.

Garcia approached him on the practice range Monday at Merion for a handshake, and little more.

"We didn't discuss anything," Woods said. "Just came up and said, 'Hi,' and that was it."

Asked if Garcia apologized, Woods said, "No. It's already

FSM's Sunshein Palik, 6-0, 6-0,

while Julia Ishikawa and Em-

ily Jones prevailed over Guam

players. Jones swept Angelysa

Ulloa, 6-2, 6-1, while Ishikawa

also made short work of Kanata

Abrams, 6-3, 6-1.

when Garcia was done practicing, and the opening day of U.S. Open practice was delayed three times by rain.

They are on opposite sides of the draw—Garcia plays Thursday morning and Friday afternoon, Woods tees off Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Unless they are near each other on the leaderboard on the week-

U18 competition, Tommy Choi ing a 6-0, 6-0 win over Guam's

is expected to battle the U15 crown against Rastguiy and Ackerman, also won her first round match, blanking FSM's Jenna Panuelo, 6-0, 6-0.

Palau's Ayana Rengiil, who

Over at the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts for the boys

got off to an impressive start, shutting out FSM's Bryan Esau, 6-0, 6-0. Three more CNMI players were victorious in their opening games with Amami Sakano defeating Guam's Joshua Gallegos, 6-1, 6-1; Jake Lee downing fellow Commonwealth player Danie Park, 6-3, 6-2; and Seiya Eda outlasting Guam's Victor Tuncap, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

In the girls U18, Mikayla Lopez had a rousing start, notchAlyssa Bristol, while FSM's Margaret Finnen had a similar shutout victory over Guam's Margaux San Nicolas. Sixty-two games

scheduled in the opener of the five-day tournament and all divisions implement a pool play format to determine the rankings in the playoffs. Only the singles competition will be played in the first two days of the regionals, while doubles action will start tomorrow.

In the playoffs, Va Va Boom triumphed over the Breakers, 21-10, to barge into the quarterfinals against Duh Conceited, which stunned Jandreo, 21-20. Va Va Boom then defeated Duh Conceited, 21-18, to arrange a semis tiff versus Six Pack, which topped Anofalamumu, 21-12. Anofalamumu advanced against Six Pack after thumping

Va Va Boom stretched its run in the playoffs to three games, dominating Six Pack in the semis, 21-8, and gaining the first finals seat and the twice-to-beat edge that went with it, while the latter battled Jandreo for the second and last championship ticket.

After opening the playoffs with a loss, Jandreo collected two victories to keep its finals bid alive. It ousted the Breakers, 21-6, and then sent Anofalamumu packing after a 21-16 win, to set a semis showdown against

Six Pack in the loser's bracket. Six Pack then caught the last trip to the finals after booting out Jandreo, 21-12.

In the finals, Six Pack' Joon Lee, Greg Kim, Chris Park, Jehn Joyner, Jian Joyner, Daniel Lim eked out a 23-21 win in Game 1 to extend the title duel, but in the end Va Va Boom held its ground and took the championship with a 16-14 victory in Game 2.

Besides bragging rights, Va Va Boom and Living Like Larry members also won brand new Mikasa beach volleyballs, which came from Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association and Fédération Internationale de Volleyball, for topping the weekend competition.

Meanwhile, McCullough-Stearns and John Nekaifes, who organized the fundraiser with the help of NMIVA, would like to thank Fiesta Resort & Spa for providing logistics for the tournament and the participating teams.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	40	26	.606	_
New York	37	27	.578	2
Baltimore	37	28	.569	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	35	29	.547	4
Toronto	28	36	.438	11

Central Division

Detroit	36	27	.571	_
Cleveland	31	33	.484	5 1/
Kansas City	29	33	.468	6 1/
Minnesota	28	33	.459	7
Chicago	28	35	.444	8

west Division					
Texas	38	26	.594	_	
Oakland	39	27	.591	_	
Seattle	29	37	.439	10	
Los Angeles	27	38	.415	11 1/2	
Houston	22	44	.333	17	

NATIONAL LEAGUE **East Division**

31 32 .492 7 31 34 .477 8 Washington Philadelphia 23 36 .390 13 New York 19 45 297 19 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	42	22	.656	_
Cincinnati	39	26	.600	3 1/2
Pittsburgh	38	26	.594	4
Milwaukee	26	38	.406	16
Chicago	25	37	403	16

West Division

u izoria	00	20	.001	_
Colorado	35	30	.538	1
San Francisco	33	30	.524	2
San Diego	31	34	.477	5
os Angeles	28	36	438	7 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

hand Mountain Dew its first loss in the tournament and marched into the finals with a twiceto-beat advantage, following a close 23-21 semis victory. Mountain Dew fell to the loser's bracket and had to beat Team Name to get a second crack at Living Like Larry. Team Name, which is composed of Cole Chambers, Alan Hinson, Moris Villanueva, and Han-

games in pool play, while Living Like Larry held a 2-1 record and they advanced to the winner's bracket semifinals of the double-elimination playoffs after downing 2023 National Team, 21-11, and Team Name, 21-17.

Living Like Larry went on to nah Nelson, arranged a duel with Mountain Dew for the last finals berth after eliminating 2023 National Team, 21-4.

Mountain Dew then ended 2023 National Team's hopes for a finals appearance after notching a 21-15 win and went on to force a rubber march against Living Like Larry with a 21-13 victory in Game 1 of the title tiff. However, Living Like Larry regrouped in the deciding game to rule the four-team field.

In the U21 division, Va Va Boom bested six other teams. Playing for the champion team were Knohlynn Gechig, Chenny Lizama, John Nidea, and T.J. Eina.

Va Va Boom tied Six Pack and Jandreo after pool play, as the three teams held similar 5-1 records. Six Pack won the tiebreak and got a bye in the first round of the playoffs, as it beat Va Va Boom by seven points in pool play, 21-14. Va Va Boom prevailed over Jandreo by five, 21-16, to get the No. 2 seeding, while the latter settled for the No. 3 ranking, as it won by only two points against Six

Pack, 21-19.

Fail, 21-16.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 **27** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

40A 2013 Masters Basketball League Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Ray Lizama drives and draws a foul on C&J Signs International's Junar Guiab during the deciding Game 3 of their title series in the 40A division of the 2013 Masters Basketball League last Saturday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.



C&J Signs International's Edsel Mendoza drives to the baseline.



C&J Signs International's Dante Olivos, center, challenges the defense of Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Yosh Gabaldon, left, and Felix Palacios.



C&J Signs International's Roger Valencia is blocked by Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Yosh Gabaldon.



C&J Signs International's Sam Fernandez pulls up for an open jumper.



Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Felix Palacios goes up for a jumper.



Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Mike Sablan goes for a



C&J Signs International's Edsel Mendoza, right, challenges a baseline jumper from Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Haejun Park.



C&J Signs International and Typhoon/Triple J Motors players battle for the loose ball.



C&J Signs International's Junar Guiab, left, blocks Typhoon/Triple J Motors's Ray Lizama.







SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Atalig surviving Mimi Sakano,

1-6, 6-3, 6-1, and Malika Mi-

wayaki beating Ruth Park, 6-0.

6-0. Grace Choi also triumphed

in her first round match, defeat-

ing FSM's Tilda Tollenoa, 6-3,

6-1, while FSM's Isabel Garcia outclassed compatriot Anna

Meanwhile, the girls U15

See CNMI on Page 26

Skilling, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.

28 THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013

CNMI players deliver in opener



roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

o far, so good.

The CNMI junior players did well in the morning matches at the opening of the 2013 North Pacific Regional Championships yesterday.

6-2, 6-1, while Guam's

Aaron Abrams slipped

past FSM's Shiro Esau,

In the girls U12,

three other all-CNMI

aged to notch one win in the first

half of Day 1, as Joab William

downed the CNMI's Rai Aditya,

2-6, 6-3, 6-0.

first round matches took place

with Tania Tan shutting out Asia

Raulerson, 6-0, 6-0, Catherine

Over at the American Memorial Park tennis courts, the Commonwealth bets dominated the

U12 games with favorites Carol Lee and Robbie Schorr blanking their separate foes in the first round. Lee was paired with fellow

CNMI netter Conatsu Kaga and cruised to a 6-0, 6-0 win, while Schorr recorded the same victory over Haruya Eda, 6-0, 6-0.

In other boys U12 results, Tony Kim routed Guam's Kyle Ehrenreich, 6-1, 6-0, while Joshua Abragan swept Federated States of Micronesia's Sterkis Abraham, 6-2, 6-2. FSM man-

◀ Ken Song goes for a baseline return against Vincent Tudela during their boys U12 singles game in the opening of the 2013 North Pacific Regional Championships yesterday at the American Memo-

rial Park tennis courts. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rota pulls out of district meet



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jordan Pangelinan, seen here at bat during a regular season game in the Saipan Little League Baseball at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios, will lead the Saipan Big League All-Stars in this weekend's district tournament on Tinian.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Only Saipan and Tinian will compete in the 17th Annual CNMI District Baseball Tournament after Rota withdrew from the weekend competition.

Acting CNMI District Administrator James Ada confirmed Rota's absence in the

tournament that will be held on Tinian this weekend, citing funding problems. Ada added that only games in Major and Big League divisions will be

played in the district meet. The Saipan All-Stars in the Senior and Junior divisions will automatically represent the

CNMI to the 2013 Asia-Pacific See ROTA on Page 26

Living Like Larry, Va Va Boom win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Living Like Larry and Va Va Boom topped a fundraising beach volleyball tournament for the CNMI

Summer Universiade in Kazan, Russia.

Living Like Larry won the U14 co-ed division of the fundraiser for Clay McCullough-Stearns and John Nekaifes, who will represent the Common-

Team competing in the 27th wealth to the FISU-sanctioned event that will be held next month. The champion team is composed of Susan Cho, Sunjoon Tenorio, Logan Mister, and Colin Ramsey and the quartet clinched the U14 crown after beating Mountain Dew in Game

2 of the finals, 15-9, last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sand court. Mountain Dew, which has

Alex Park, Luther Lizama, Masaki Kitami, Gio Hur, and Sally Hwang on its roster, and Living Like Larry finished in the Top 2 after round-robin play. Montain Dew was unbeaten in three

See LIVING on Page 26



Participants in last Saturday's fundraising beach volleyball tournament for the CNMI Team competing in the 27th Summer Universiade in Russia pose for a group photo at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sand courts.